

'Troops were desperately pulling corpses from the rubble'

Blast kills 33 at US Embassy in Beirut

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

America's political honeymoon in the Lebanon came to a savage and terrifying end yesterday when a massive bomb — either hidden in a police vehicle and detonated by remote control or carried by a suicide bomber in his own car — blasted down part of the United States Embassy in Beirut, slaughtering at least 33 people and wounding another 105. They included senior Embassy staff, American Marine guards and Lebanese civilians who were queuing at the ground-floor visa section when the explosion tore them to pieces.

The bomb was so powerful that the seven-storey central section of the Embassy simply collapsed in a cloud of dust and flames, crushing to death everyone inside. A Lebanese military armoured vehicle was blown off the coastal boulevard that runs past the building and tumbled into the Mediterranean while the corpses of Embassy staff were tossed 50 feet through the air onto a carpet of rubble and glass outside.

The explosion also blasted the self-confidence of some would say complacency of the American-organised multinational force in Beirut and destroyed the sense of security that the American presence in Lebanon had given to tens of thousands of Lebanese.

Coming only days after the collapse of the Reagan initiative, and at a time when the United States was still vainly trying to secure the withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian troops from the country, the bomb was clearly intended to strike at the very heart of President Reagan's Middle East policy.

Only 10 minutes after the bomb went off an organization calling itself "Al Jihad Al Islami" — "Islamic Holy War" — claimed responsibility for the carnage. An anonymous caller, speaking slowly and in a Lebanese accent, telephoned the Beirut newspaper *Al-Livan* and the Agency-France Presse news agency to say that the attack was "part of the Iranian revolution's campaign against the imperialist presence throughout the world". In fact "Al Jihad Al Islami" is a faction of the Shia Muslim political advantage if the Americans were proved to be powerless to prevent such anarchy in Beirut.

But such speculation seemed cruelly irrelevant in the immediate aftermath of the explosion yesterday. When it reached the ruins of the Embassy just over four minutes after the bomb had gone off, flames were still curling out of the building and from dozens of parked cars on the driveway outside. A dozen or so French and Lebanese troops were desperately pulling corpses from the rubble, some of them weeping and one of the soldiers screaming uncontrollably at the extent of the slaughter became clear.

The roadway was slippery with water, glass and blood and other more terrible objects.

Continued on page 7, col 6



Rescue workers in action: Some blackened corpses had been stripped half-naked by the explosion.

THE TIMES Tomorrow

English brutality, which led to a decline in the Irish population, has constantly fed the flames of Irish hatred. That, at least, was what Hitler's generals were told in the summer of 1940 as they made plans to invade Ireland, the back door of Britain's defences. On the Spectrum page tomorrow, Robert Fisk describes how the Nazis planned "Operation Green". The Wednesday Page meets Lady Jean Crossman, the master of foxhounds who charged into action when she discovered her local Tory candidate had a wife who was involved with the League Against Cruel Sports. Two Special Reports look at Hongkong and the world tea industry.

Unions' pay revolt toned down

Militant trade union leaders agreed on a formula of loyalty to the Shadow Cabinet as election fever affected the Scottish TUC in Rothay. Faced with mounting political pressure, the miners and civil servants toned down a left-wing motion hostile to the prospect of an incomes policy under the TUC-Labour Party economic plan Page 2

House prices rise by 5%

House prices throughout the country have increased by as much as 5 per cent, representing the largest surge in demand since 1980, according to the latest residential survey Page 3

'Gandhi' refusal

Sir Richard Attenborough said that he will not attend performance of this film *Gandhi* in South Africa, unless the Pretoria Government opens every performance to all races throughout the film's entire run and that no cinema has to apply for a permit. Indians forget, page 6

Oil 'peace'

Two leading oil ministers, Shauki Yamani of Saudi Arabia and Dr. Othman of the United Arab Emirates, said that the accord on oil pricing had been a success and the danger of a price war was now over. Page 15

Wife goes home

Mrs Lorraine Gilmore, the wife of an alleged IRA "supergrass", has returned home to London after eight months in police protective custody. Her husband is still in hiding Page 2

Murder appeal

Paul Vickers, aged 48, the surgeon convicted at Tosside Crown Court in November, 1981, of the murder of his wife, is seeking leave to appeal against his conviction Page 3

Seveso trial off

The trial of five officials charged with responsibility for the Seveso dioxin pollution disaster opened in Italy and was adjourned. The accused were absent Page 6

Leaflet request

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is to ask the Government for supplies of its leaflets on the cruise and Trident missiles and the nuclear debate, to send out with CND's own leaflets Page 4

Net profit

Tennis players are benefiting financially from tournaments in which they have not competed. Rex Bellamy discusses the dubious distribution of prize money Page 25

Squash changes

Revolutionary changes are planned in the sport of squash, with the aim of giving it greater spectator appeal. Among the innovations is a new scoring system Page 24

Leader page, 13

Letter: On film, from Mr I Quinn and Mr M Hassan; probation, from Lord Wells-Fessell and others; arms, from Dr H Macdonald. Leading articles: European and Arab cultures; Lead in petrol. Features, pages 8, 11, 12. A call to speed the ban on petrol lead. Arm-twisting at the Scottish TUC. The controversial architect of the Tate extension. Fashion for a rainy day, by Suzi Menkes. Spectrum: Getting the Irish out of neutral. Obituary, page 14. Dr Ruth Morgan, Mr Gerard Fairlie.

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Early poll call 'would put party first'

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

If the Prime Minister decides in favour of an early general election, as many of her colleagues in government believe she should, most voters will consider that her decision has been taken for reasons of political advantage rather than national interest.

An opinion poll taken for Independent Television News on Saturday invited respondents to say whether national interest or the pursuit of political advantage would be the Government's mind. Nearly two thirds believed it would be political advantage.

Even among Conservative supporters 59 per cent preferred political advantage to national interest as the likelier motive. Among the Government's opponents the response was even less generous, with 74 per cent of Labour and 73 per cent of Alliance supporters ready to attribute an early election date to political advantage.

The poll of a representative sample of 1,625 electors throughout Britain was conducted for ITN by Opinion Research Centre. It goes to the heart of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's dilemma, if she is seriously considering a June election, because it gives colour to the most persistent fear of her advisers — that voters will accuse her of opportunism.

It may be that fear which, to another question, led 62 per cent of Conservative supporters to say that the Government should have an early election, which only 28 per cent of Conservatives wanted. But among Labour supporters 76 per cent, and among Alliance supporters 59 per cent, wanted an election soon.

As to voting intention, the ITN poll, in an unusual sequence of questions, found that only 55 per cent of voters had decided which party to support. Among these the Conservatives again had a marked lead of 12 points. The figures were: Conservative 43 per cent, Labour 36 per cent, Alliance 12 per cent.

At Westminster the very low figure for Alliance support was treated with some scepticism. A more orthodox poll conducted by MORI for the *Standard* and published yesterday recorded support at Conservative 43 per cent, Labour 34 per cent, Alliance 22 per cent. MORI questioned 1,825 electors on April 7 to 12.

All new cars to take lead-free petrol within seven years

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

All new cars will have to run on lead-free petrol by 1990, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for the Environment, said yesterday. He was responding to a warning from the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution that the amount of lead in the blood of the "general population" was too close to a potentially dangerous level.

Mr King's statement went further than any previous Government commitment. He said he would like new cars to be able to run on lead-free petrol before 1990, but there were two hurdles to cross before a date could be announced. One was to persuade the rest of the EEC to change Community rules to allow all member states to change to lead-free petrol, and the other was to agree with car manufacturers a date from which they could fit new models with appropriate engines.

At present petrol in the EEC must contain at least 0.15 grammes of lead per litre, the level to which British petrol will fall early in 1986. The present British level is 0.4 grammes per litre. Existing car engines can meet the 1986 low-lead requirement but cannot run without lead-based anti-knock compound. "I think this Royal Commission report has been valuable in cutting through a lot of the propaganda and a lot of the somewhat exaggerated claims of the various lobbyists on the various sides", Mr King said later.

The Government's reaction to the Royal Commission was "far too leisurely". A labour administration would introduce lead-free petrol on a date of its choice, irrespective of the state of bargaining with the rest of the EEC. "Mr Des Wilson, chairman of the Campaign for Lead-Free Air (Clear), said: "It is a very exciting and even moving moment to find ourselves vindicated". But he demanded

an immediate announcement from ministers of a definite early date for the introduction of lead-free petrol, and a statement that opposition from the rest of the EEC would not delay its introduction in Britain. He also wanted independent monitoring of the change to prevent profiteering by industry. Mr King's statement was a victory for concerned parents over "the power of multi-national industries and the obstinacy of ministers and bureaucrats".

The argument about lead in petrol overshadowed the commission's close investigation of all sources of lead, from pencils to beer. Mr King said he would comment later on its recommendations for removing lead from paint and drinking water. Professor Richard Southwood, chairman of the Royal Commission, said it was important to reduce all forms of lead pollution to increase the safety margin between intake and the amount that could damage health. The commission wanted quicker Government action to remove lead from piping, and was worried about an unresolved dispute between the Department of the Environment and the Water Research Centre over the phasing out of lead solder.

Levels of lead far below danger limits could be swayed. Continued on back page, col 4

Top-level talks bring peace hope for BL

By Barry Clement

Talks between BL and the leaders of the two main unions involved in the three-week strike at the Cowley plant were adjourned last night until Wednesday. Mr Harold Musgrove, chairman of the Austin Rover group, said Mr Terence Duffy, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and Mr Mostyn Evans, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, would carry out intensive negotiations today with shop stewards and district leaders.

He said: "I sincerely hope we do not have to dismiss anyone. At this level of talks we should have a successful conclusion." A possible deal would involve restructuring of bonus payments rather than a transparent attempt to buy off the workers. The peace initiative was launched on Sunday by Mr Duffy, who insisted that there could be a deal over the "washing up" period of the end of shifts, the issue at the centre of the stoppage. A settlement could involve "compensatory payments" for loss of the time. The talks were arranged after a midnight telephone conversation between Mr Duffy, who was at his union's annual conference in Eastbourne, and Mr Evans in Scotland.

But any compromise will have to be put before local union leaders at Cowley and possibly before a mass meeting at the plant today. The strikers, under the guidance of Mr David Buckle, local official of the transport union, have consistently refused to climb down over the washing-up issue. A BL worker at Longbridge killed himself after being laid off on his birthday because of the Cowley dispute.

Sterling at highest for three months

By Michael Prest and Frances Williams

The strength of sterling and near-record spending in the high streets combined to bring the Government more confidence in the pound's recovery. Sterling rose to \$1.56 its highest point against the dollar for three months, while retail trade figures showed that high street shops had risen by a provisional 0.8 per cent last month, leaving the retail sales index at 112.2 (1978 = 100), 5 per cent above its level of a year earlier. This is only just below the record levels of 112.3 in June 1979 and 112.2 last December.

Sales in the first quarter of this year were slightly up on the previous quarter, but about 4.5 per cent higher than in the first quarter of last year, when bad weather hit trade. On the stock market, share prices failed to break through 700, despite much prompting from city pundits. Share prices retreated after a firm start, with the *Financial Times* 30-share index ending the day 0.5 down at 695.0, having been 2.9 higher at one stage.

Dealers remain convinced that despite the market's contrary performance, share prices will continue to rise. Intervention call, page 15. Market report, page 22.

'Striking link' between suicides and booklet

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

At least 15 people killed themselves after buying the Voluntary Euthanasia Society's suicide booklet, published in June 1981, the High Court in London was told yesterday. And since the society asked people to destroy or return the booklet, a *Guide to Self-Deliverance*, there might be other cases not revealed, Mr Simon D. Brown, for the Attorney General, said.

A further 19 suicides were known to have been in contact with the society, he added. The "striking link" between the booklet and the deaths was noticed by police throughout Britain, Mr Brown said as he opened civil proceedings against five of the Society's executive committee members. The society, formerly known as EKIT, has refused to withdraw the booklet, which has sold more than 8,000 copies. Sir Michael Havers QC, the Attorney General is seeking a declaration from Mr Justice Woolf that publication and distribution of the booklet is an offence under the Suicide Act, 1961, which prohibits aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring suicide. He had no doubt that the society would comply with such a ruling. Mr Brown said it was hard to believe that drafting and disseminating the booklet was consistent with any belief other than that it would "enable a number of people to commit suicide who otherwise would not". It was absurd to suppose that receipt of the booklet would never be a precipitating factor in a suicide. The booklet's preface, written by Arthur Koestler, who recently committed suicide with his wife, refers to the "nightmare" of the botched attempt and information in the booklet was intended to help to overcome such fears and provide an effective end without failure or brain damage, he said. Mr Brown said the Attorney General had decided to act against the booklet after receiving an accumulation of evidence from police throughout the country. He had sought that material after the death of a man aged 22 at Claridge's hotel, London, in July 1981. The man was found with a copy of the booklet and had used one of the six methods of suicide outlined in it. Mr Brown said the police reports showed a "striking link" between suicides and the booklet. Sir Michael therefore felt obliged to take action. He chose civil proceedings because "given the essential responsibility of society and its evident belief not only in the moral propriety of its actions but also its legal entitlement to publish and distribute the booklet, the Attorney General was loathe to prosecute for the offence, being one punishable by up to 14 years in prison." Mr Geoffrey Robertson, opening the case for the society, criticized that decision. He said the matter should be dealt with by Parliament and not the courts, particularly the civil courts, where there was no right to jury trial. The civil courts should be used to determine breaches of the criminal law only in highly exceptional circumstances. Mr Robertson said the society did not intend its actions to encourage suicide or result in a suicide which could not otherwise have been attempted or committed, and it believed some people would be deterred by the booklet. It had committed no offence, he said. The executive committee members named in the summons are: Mrs Brenda Able, Mr Harry Ree, Miss Celia Freeman, Mrs Jean Davies, and Miss Barbara Smoker, the society's chairman. The hearing continues today.

Walesa held on road to Warsaw

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Lech Walesa, the former Solidarity chairman, was held by police yesterday while on his way to Warsaw to pay tribute to the Jewish resistance fighters who died 40 years ago in the ghetto uprising against the Germans.

The police move — they stopped Mr Walesa near Olaszyn on the road from Gdansk to Warsaw — was unexplained but seemed designed to prevent Mr Walesa taking part in any pro-Solidarity demonstrations in the capital.

The incident was the latest in a series of clashes between Solidarity sympathizers and the authorities that have characterized the ghetto uprising anniversary. The government had hoped to use the extensive ceremonies and celebrations as a way of building up international respectability and atoning for the antisemitic campaigns waged in Poland 15 years ago.

Instead there has been a succession of disputes involving the underground and Jewish resentment at the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization in wreath-laying ceremonies. Mr Walesa, who openly admitted last week that he had met the illegal Solidarity underground, had hoped to take part in an unofficial ceremony marking the anniversary.

About 200 Jews and Solidarity supporters — including Dr Bronislaw Geremek, a former adviser to Mr Walesa — gathered outside the gates of the Jewish cemetery. Mr Walesa was travelling yesterday with his friend Father Henryk Jankowski, the Gdansk shipyard priest, and an actor, Jozef Durys. He was subsequently released and subsequently released and subsequently released and subsequently released.

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Cleric jumps bail in South Africa and flees to UK

By Clifford Langley

The Rev Cedric Mayson, 60, trial under the Treason Act in South Africa, has jumped bail and fled to Britain where he is being sheltered by churchmen. He arrived late on Sunday night, having evaded South African security men and crossed the Lesotho border. His trial resumed in Pretoria yesterday hot was adjourned indefinitely after the judge said he had received a letter from Mr Mayson announcing that he was not intending to surrender to his bail of 1,000 rand (£500).

Canon Paul Gesteirer, international secretary of the British Council of Churches, said Mr Mayson, a Methodist minister, was resting at an undisclosed address, and would explain how he escaped today. Continued on back page, col 4

CHARLES CHURCH

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Election fever takes fire out of union attack on Labour's pay policy

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Rothessy

General election fever yesterday overtook the Labour movement's policy on free collective bargaining as militant Scottish trade union leaders agreed on a formula of loyalty to the Shadow Cabinet.

In the face of mounting political pressure, miners and civil servants toned down a left-wing motion hostile to the prospects of an incomes policy under the TUC-Labour Party plan for an annual "national economic assessment".

The Scottish TUC conference will still go on record tomorrow with a declaration of opposition to wage restraint, but by then delegates will have voted unqualified support for the new political accord, *Partners in Rebuilding Britain*.

Moderate leaders of the General, Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union (GMBATU) yesterday persuaded the STUC General Council to take over their motion committing Scotland's one million trade unionists to campaign for the return of a Labour government based on the policies contained in the joint document.

Mr David Basmatt, general secretary of GMBATU and chairman of the TUC economic committee, argued: "Unity has never been more essential".

Partners in Rebuilding Britain envisages a government-supported extension of collective bargaining which would involve acceptance of a policy on incomes. Mrs Helen Laidlaw, secretary of the Scottish Labour Party, insisted that the new deal would give the unions enormous power of a kind they had not enjoyed before.

It would give them a say in the allocation of resources within their enterprise, but she gave a warning: "It gives power with responsibility. You cannot accept the rights that power will give you and deny the responsibility."

Labour's priorities were to provide jobs, improve the living standards of the most needy, and to improve the living standards of those in work.

Hostility to wage restraint will resurface tomorrow as the miners seek to recoup as much ground as they can from the "heavy operation" mounted by a British TUC leaders to quell what was seen as an embarrassing political revolt.

Mr Cambell Christie, deputy secretary of GMBATU and

general secretary of the Society of Civil and Public Servants (SCPS), said: "It is important to get a strong and powerful statement against incomes policy and against wage restraint. We expect it to be passed unanimously as it is a declaration of the policy of most unions in the hall."

However, the SCPS proposal to oppose any discussions of wage restraint "whether statutory or voluntary or through a national economic assessment with this or any Government", has disappeared in favour of a more general formula favoured by the Scottish miners and with which union moderates feel they can live.

Delegates are expected to endorse unanimously the emergency motion being discussed today, which welcomes and fully supports Labour's *Programme for Britain* adopted by the General Council of the TUC and the Labour Party National Executive last month and committing delegates to campaign for the return of a Labour government based on the policies contained in *Partners in Rebuilding Britain*.

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New deal or no deal? page 12



Flying back to the past

Fifty years ago today two Westland biplanes flew over Mount Everest for the first time.

The photographs taken then and published in *The Times* helped British climbers in their conquest of the mountain two decades later.

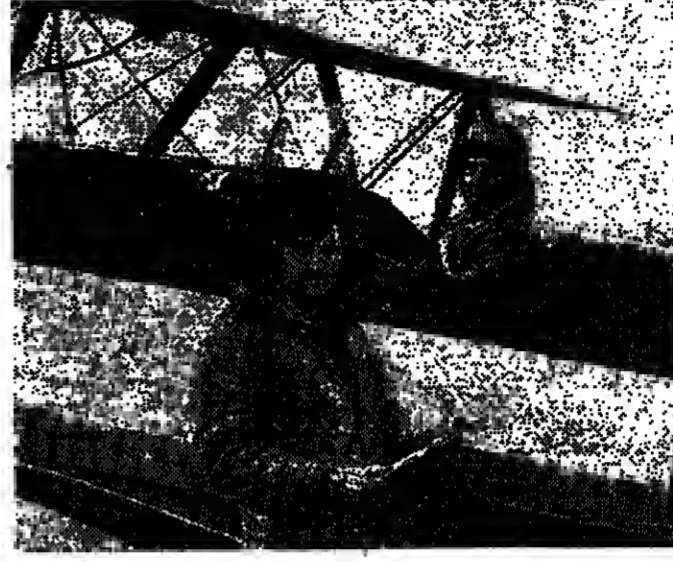
One of those is reproduced above, showing the Eloustan Westland flying towards Everest, approaching Lohsta, at 32,000ft.

Now two British pilots are preparing to repeat the 1933 flight. Mr George Almond (right, standing) will fly to Nepal next week

to obtain the necessary permissions for the flight, and Mr John Jordan (in the aircraft) will test the Boeing Stearman biplane over Bedfordshire.

Mr Jordan will particularly check supercharger oxygen equipment required to push the aircraft to 30,000ft.

This year's journey, planned for the next few months, will also be photographed and sons of the 1933 aircraft will be invited to fly in the camera aircraft and follow in their fathers' footsteps.



Firemen threaten to strike

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The likelihood of a series of one-day lightning strikes next week by Britain's 30,000 firemen depends on a government statement which is expected within the next few days on whether ministers are determined to make public service workers pay more for their pensions.

Firemen, with the police, have been told that from the beginning of next month their contribution to index-linked pensions will be increased by 4 per cent. Leaders of the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) met Home Office officials yesterday to warn them that unless the Government backed down the strikes would then go ahead.

A report of the meeting was given to Mr William Whitelaw,

or the FBU, which is due to hold a delegate conference next Tuesday to decide whether to back the union executive's call for a strike.

Regional voting indicates that there will be overwhelming support at the conference for strikes unless there is a change in the situation.

The union has said that if the Government persists with its proposals to increase the pension contributions there will be three days of strikes next month, with a further three one-day stoppages, again without notice and without emergency cover.

The Home Office said yesterday that the firemen's 6.75 per cent contribution toward their pensions has not been increased for 10 years.

The local authorities, who supervise fire service operations, have put forward a suggestion that there should be a 2 per cent increase next month, with a further 2 per cent in November. That has met with the approval of the National Association of Fire Officers and the Chief Fire Officers Association.

It was not clear last night if the compromise would be acceptable to the Government

of the Home Secretary, and he is expected to make an early statement on the Government's position. There does, however, appear to be the basis of a compromise in a suggestion that introduction of the 4 per cent increase might be phased over the next year.

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Labour fears split as Duffy attacks policies

From Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter, Eastbourne

Evidence of a serious split in Labour over next month's election is being revealed by the government's dismantling of the Common Law Fund and the Common Law Fund's resignation during Mr Terence Duffy's residential speech to the amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

Mr Duffy, who is on the left-wing of the party, attacked Labour's policy on unilateralism and withdrawal from Europe, two of the key issues on which he hopes to attract electoral support. His speech will be highly embarrassing to Michael Foot, the Labour leader, who is to address the conference tomorrow and is submitted to supporting both sides.

Mr Duffy's remarks on defence were seen as particularly unfortunate by Labour Party supporters attempting to promote unity. The Conservatives, in apparent preparation

for an early election, are to make the Labour Party's policy of "one-sided" disarmament one of the central issues of the next general election.

Mr Duffy told the conference that Britain should contribute to Nato both in terms of conventional and nuclear weapons. "Unilateralism by Britain would weaken Nato and lessen the chances of lasting peace."

On the Common Market he said that trade unionists in European companies did not wish Britain to withdraw.

In spite of his attack on the two crucial Labour Party policies, Mr Duffy said that he would be campaigning for a Labour victory.

However, there is no indication that the executive will agree with Mr Duffy's stance in spite of a 33 to 19 right-wing majority.

Tatchell bows out of battle

By Richard Evans

Bermondsey Labour Party, in South London, will this week start the search for a new prospective parliamentary candidate after the decision by Mr Peter Tatchell not to reapply for the job.

Mr Tatchell has reluctantly bowed to pressure within the local party not to put himself forward after the controversial Southwark, Bermondsey, by-election in February, when he was defeated overwhelmingly by Mr Simon Hughes, the Alliance's Liberal candidate.

The seat had been held by Labour for more than half a century.

Among the names being floated for the job last night were those of Richard Balle, Euro-MP for London, South Inner, which includes Bermondsey, and Mr George Nicholson, Greater London Council member for Bermondsey.

Mr Tatchell gave in to the "overwhelming view" of the local party that he was not the right person to stand at the general election.

"Local party members have asked me not to stand because too much of the mud thrown during the Bermondsey by-election has stuck. The answer seems impossible to raise in the foreseeable future."

"The Bermondsey party feels that I would be unable to receive a fair and impartial hearing in the popular press if I stood at the general election. They fear a repetition of the anti-homosexual prejudice which was used against me."

Mr Tatchell indicated that he hoped to seek selection as a prospective candidate in a few years' time.

The inaugural meeting of a new Southwark and Bermondsey party, after minor boundary changes to the constituency, is due on Thursday.

Whitelaw dashes hope on prisons

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Separate deputations of MPs and prison governors who complained yesterday to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, about "appalling" conditions in which men are being kept in police cells instead of prison came away disappointed.

Mr Brendan O'Riel, Chairman of the prison and borstal governors' branch of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, said: "We are extremely concerned that there is no new initiative to deal with the scandalous use of police cells."

The all-party Parliamentary Penal Affairs Group also concluded Mr Whitelaw had no new initiatives immediately to cut the prison population to make room for men held elsewhere.

The Prison Department said yesterday that 260 people were now being held in cells, bringing the total prison population to 44,505. Mr Whitelaw was also pressed to act to cut the prison population by a deputation from the all-party Parliamentary Penal Affairs Group.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk, and chairman of the group, said that on his visit to police cells a senior police officer had told him: "You shouldn't keep a dog in these conditions." Mr Kilroy-Silk said of the visit to the cells: "We were absolutely outraged."

The deputation included Mr Sam Silkin, Labour MP for Dulwich and former Attorney General, Mr George Cunningham, SDP MP for Islington South and Finsbury, Mr Alfred Dubs, Labour MP for Battersea South, and Lord Avebury.

Mr O'Riel said after seeing Mr Whitelaw: "He felt that the use of executive release would have to be used in the case of a real emergency. While we regard the use of police cells as a dire emergency, I don't think he sees it in those terms. 'We have in effect put up a 'house full' notice."

Mr Whitelaw, however, indicated he was prepared to go on fighting for more staff and buildings. The governors reminded him that two of their members had been taken hostage this year, each held at knife-point, one at Parkhurst in January, and the other at Wormwood Scrubs in March.

While Mr Whitelaw claimed later to the all-party group that he had been ruled out of use of executive release to deal with the prison crisis he left governors with the impression that it was not his immediate intention to employ it.

Disabled couple can keep child

From Arthur Osman, Lincoln

A severely handicapped couple yesterday won a legal battle to keep their son, aged four and a half months, who had been made a ward of court on the application of Nottinghamshire County Council.

Mr Justice Hollings, sitting at Lincoln, ruled that the baby should be brought up in the care of his parents, who would be supervised by the county's social services department. The child would remain in wardship to prevent any disclosure of identity.

The judge said that the parents had been to an assessment centre at Oxford to see how they coped with the baby. There had also been an independent report by the court welfare officer, noting "great, good and proper love" between parents and child. The judge said he considered it was an acceptable risk to allow the parents to look after him.

The mother, who wept when the judge announced they could keep the baby, said later: "We were told that we were too disabled to look after a child. But I cook and do my own shopping and in the past I have

worked as a cleaner and a machinist.

"Our son is the only one we shall ever have, and I was determined to keep him." In view of their circumstances she agreed to be sterilized after the baby was born four months since the wardship order was made.

The mother, aged 30, has congenital club feet, and father aged 34, is confined to a wheelchair with cerebral palsy. They have a joint income of £38 a week from allowances.

The mother said they had taken "extraordinary precautions" to try to ensure their child would be normal, which he was.

They had married in 1981, and lived in a supervised local authority complex in Nottingham.

When they decided they wanted a child, they first went to a geneticist, who after

tests assured them that the risk of having a handicapped child was no worse than for anyone else.

She was then examined by a leading obstetrician and they had 70 hours of counselling by a psychiatrist social worker.

It had been a difficult birth, and after returning to their flat she suffered post-natal depression and did have difficulty in coping. She returned to hospital and four days before Christmas a High Court writ was served on them, seeking to make the baby a ward.

The husband said a social worker had told him the baby would be taken away "in your and the baby's best interests".

"There was great resistance to us coming and to our marriage. We are independent people and that is why we fought so hard for our son."

Mr Edward Cullham, Nottinghamshire County Council's director of social services, said last night that his authority's actions in making the baby a ward of court had been fully vindicated by the comments of the judge.

Ministries criticized

Mr Gordon Downey, the comptroller and Auditor General, has criticized three government departments for failing to meet their own standards of control over nationalized industries (our Political Correspondent writes).

A report, which will provide a framework for a Commons public accounts investigation, complains of substantial deficiencies in information provided by the National Coal Board, British Telecommunications and the British Railways board.

Mr Downey said that Department of Energy officials had repeatedly recorded that the information in coal board reports had been inadequate to assess the plans and efforts to improve the situation were "slow to bear fruit".

The coal board had also

resisted attempts to file financial returns within agreed periods.

Mr Downey noted that although the department continued to press for the prompt production of these returns, it considered legal sanctions to reinforce the pressure inappropriate.

On the Department of Industry's control of British Telecommunications, Mr Downey said: "It appeared to me that the department had little detailed knowledge of the economic modelling method used by BT to prepare the medium-term plans and its ability to assess its soundness was therefore impaired."

Mr Downey also said that the British Railways Board plan for 1981-85 had failed to show the build-up of revenue costs and income projections and although it had referred to consideration of other strategies, they had not been given.

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Mr Downey noted that although the department continued to press for the prompt production of these returns, it considered legal sanctions to reinforce the pressure inappropriate.

On the Department of Industry's control of British Telecommunications, Mr Downey said: "It appeared to me that the department had little detailed knowledge of the economic modelling method used by BT to prepare the medium-term plans and its ability to assess its soundness was therefore impaired."

Mr Downey also said that the British Railways Board plan for 1981-85 had failed to show the build-up of revenue costs and income projections and although it had referred to consideration of other strategies, they had not been given.

Chemist to be top defence scientist

By Peter Hennessy

Professor Richard Norman, an organic chemist from York University, is to be the next chief scientific adviser to the Ministry of Defence. He succeeds Professor Sir Ronald Mason, who returned to Sussex University earlier this year.

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Alan Pinkerton, aged 19, a factory worker of Dutton Way, Iwer, Buckinghamshire, pleaded not guilty of murdering Mrs Hopkins last October.

Mr John Morris, QC, for the prosecution, told the jury that Mrs Hopkins was attacked near Iwer railway station.

Mr Morris said that when Mr

IRA informer's wife returns to Ulster

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The wife of an alleged IRA supergrass left a secret address to return to her home in Northern Ireland yesterday after being under police guard with her husband for eight months.

Mrs Lorraine Gilmore and her two young children had been in protective custody since her husband gave information leading to the arrest of 71 republicans for terrorist offences.

She arrived at her parents' home in Londonderry yesterday morning, but Mr Raymond Gilmore, aged 23, is still in protective custody while awaiting the trial at which he will give evidence for the Crown.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary said Mrs Gilmore had returned home at her own request after a recent meeting with her mother. Her return to the province will be a blow to the IRA, because it will increase the enormous IRA pressure on her husband to retract his statements. Masked men kidnapped his father, Mr Patrick Gilmore, aged 61, from his home in Londonderry last November and they are understood to be holding him in Donegal. They have threatened to kill him unless his son retracts his evidence.

According to *Republican News*, Mr Gilmore got in touch with his family in the middle of March, convincing his mother-

MEP's visa withdrawn by Russia

By George Clark

In what is seen as a tit-for-tat move in the dispute over alleged diplomatic spying, Lord Bethell, the Conservative MEP for London, North West, had his visa withdrawn yesterday for a visit to the Soviet Union which he had intended to make at the end of this week.

It was his intention to meet Soviet officials as well as the relatives and friends of people imprisoned for their political opposition to the regime, in advance of a debate in the European Parliament which he is to initiate.

He has prepared a report for the European Parliament seeking its backing for a resolution which condemns the "systematic violation" of human rights in Russia on behalf of the Political Affairs Committee.

Last week in Strasbourg he asked for the debate to be adjourned until a later session in view of the Soviet Union's decision to grant him a visa and in the hope that by showing a willingness to talk to Soviet officials he might be able to persuade them to adopt a new line with dissidents.

He intended to impress on them the great pressure from all countries in the Community of the Soviet Union to show some sign of a wish to fulfil the Helsinki agreement.

Lord Bethell said yesterday: "The Soviet Embassy called me this morning and asked me to return my visa. When I refused to promise to do so, they said they would not allow the aircraft to land in Moscow unless they received a guarantee that I was not on it."

"The next thing I knew was that Thomson Tours had cancelled my air ticket."

"My draft report is highly critical of the Soviet Union's record on human rights, but it seemed to me fair and just to give the Soviet authorities a chance to discuss it with me before I presented my conclusions to the European Parliament."

After the withdrawal of the visa, Lord Bethell said: "I do not think we should tolerate any visits from members of the Supreme Soviet to this country as long as this situation remains unresolved."

Members of the Supreme Soviet came to the United Kingdom frequently on an inter-parliamentary basis, and such visits should be stopped.

Science report

Aphids flee from wild, hairy potato

By the Staff of Nature

A wild, hairy potato has been found to scare off aphids (such as greenfly) by mimicking the alarm signal that is given out by a dying aphid to warn its neighbour. The signal, an airborne chemical or pheromone, causes the aphids to drop off the plant, so protecting from diseases transmitted by the pests.

This is believed to be the first time that a crop plant has been found to use the alarm signals of its pests to protect itself against disease.

The hairy potato, *Solanum berthaultii*, has been known for several years to be resistant to insect pests such as the Colorado potato beetle, aphids, thrips and mites. The resistance was thought to be caused by the fact that the hairs which cover the surface of the potato plant act as a barrier to the pests, preventing them from attacking the leaves.

Attempts at cross-breeding have produced cultivated potatoes with hairy leaves which give them physical defence against pests. Further investigation has shown, however, that there is more to the hairy leaves than meets the eye.

There are two types of hairs on the leaf surface, short, lobed hairs ("Type A" hairs) which, when touched to produce a quick-setting fluid that traps the insect, and long, sticky hairs ("Type B" hairs), which entangle the insect and encourage it to burst more Type A hairs.

Plant breeders, however, noticed that potatoes with both types of hair were more resistant to aphid attack than those with just Type A hairs, and that potatoes with the same proportion of A and B hairs had different resistances to aphid infestation. So the old idea that the hairs put up simply a physical barrier against attack was rejected. It seemed that the plant must also be using some kind of chemical defence system.

Thinking that the plants might be giving out some kind of toxic chemical, similar to that produced by wild tomatoes of tobacco plants, Dr Gibson and Dr Farnsworth, of the Rothamsted Experimental Station in Hertfordshire, analysed the leaves of the wild potato.

Surprisingly they found that the leaves contained substantial amounts of the chemical, (E)-β-farnesene, which is the alarm signal of several species of aphid, including most of those which transmit viruses to potatoes. They found that this pheromone was produced by the sticky B hairs, and that sufficient amounts of the chemical were present above the surface of the leaf to trick the aphids into believing that the leaf was a danger zone.

Dr Gibson observed that, whereas aphids are normally attracted by the yellowish-green colour of the leaves, they would keep between 1 and 3 mm from the edge of an *S. berthaultii* leaf, walking along its length "as if in two minds about climbing on to it".

Dr Gibson hopes that a potato plant will soon be available for cultivation that is chemically resistant to aphids. The insects should be discouraged from landing on the crop by the warning signals emitted by the leaf and therefore, provided the stock is initially free from diseases, the incidence of aphid-transmitted diseases should be eliminated or substantially reduced.

Source: *Nature* April 14 (Vol. 302, p. 608) 1983.
© Nature-Times News Service, 1983.

Two drama prizes for Cambridge

Cambridge University Mummerys won two of the top awards in *The Sunday Times* National Student Drama Festival at Wakefield. (Christopher Warran writes).

Peter Jukes won the RSC's Buzz Goodbody student director award for his direction of the company in *In the Shadow of the Glen* by J. M. Synge, and Joanna Scanlan took the BP best actress award.

Ray Mawby to retire

Mr Ray Mawby, aged 61, Conservative MP for the Devon seat of Totnes for the past 28 years, announced last night that "with reluctance" he will retire from Parliament at the next general election.

He has failed to be selected as prospective candidate for the two new constituencies of Teignbridge and South Hams.

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Alan Pinkerton, aged 19, a factory worker of Dutton Way, Iwer, Buckinghamshire, pleaded not guilty of murdering Mrs Hopkins last October.

Mr John Morris, QC, for the prosecution, told the jury that Mrs Hopkins was attacked near Iwer railway station.

Mr Morris said that when Mr

Pinkerton was seen by detectives he said he had taken drugs and had been drinking that night, and when he felt sick had taken his girl friend home.

The trial continues today.



Mrs Katia Hopkins: "Went to meet a man".

Sale room

An historic curiosity brings top price

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The last sale of oriental manuscripts and miniatures from the collection formed by Mr Hagop Kevorkian, an Armenian dealer and collector who lived in New York Broughton in 199,578 at Sotheby's yesterday, with only 1 per cent left unsold.

It has taken 16 years and 12 sales to disperse the collection, the largest and most comprehensive ever assembled in this field. It has realized nearly £4m.

The top price, £37,000 (estimate £20,000 to £30,000) was paid for a historic curiosity of academic rather than visual interest. It was the manuscript index to the works of Rashid Al-Din, the great fourteenth-century historian, statesman and physician.

It comprises 179 leaves written by various Persian scribes in a cursive script and dated 1370-16. It comes from the famous scriptorium established by Rashid Al-Din in Tabriz, which was plundered and burnt after Al-Din's execution in 1318, most of the manuscripts thus being lost.

One other manuscript text of the index survives, written in Arabic, in the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris.

Prices were in general or above estimates, with Qur'an fragments again keenly sought after. Despite imperfections at the beginning and end, an illuminated Mamluk Qur'an of about 1370, once a very grand manuscript, made £24,200 (estimate £10,000 to £15,000).

Household prices

Supplies of...

Household...

House buying surges to 1980 levels as prices rise by 5%

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

There has been a spring surge in house prices throughout London, the South-east, the South-west, and parts of the North and the Midlands, according to the latest residential market survey.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' monthly report on house prices, published today, shows that two-thirds of all estate agents taking part in the survey indicated rises of between 2 and 5 per cent and one in seven said that the cost of houses has increased by more than 5 per cent.

Homes in Greater London and the Home Counties are showing the largest rises, according to the report. An agent in Edmonton, north London, comments that over the last two months property prices have risen by between 5 and 8 per cent.

In Orpington, Kent, lower priced homes are selling for as much as 8 per cent more than at the beginning of the year.

However, it is not only the more affluent Home Counties that are witnessing the upsurge in house prices. In the depressed West Midlands agents are reporting that the market is more buoyant than for the past two or three years, with shortages of all types of property.

For the first time since the autumn of 1979 the Institution says that less than a third of its participating members are reporting no price changes during the last quarter.

A burst of house hunting during March has meant that houses across the country which had been languishing on estate agents' books for up to a year have now come under offer.

In the East Midlands a Hinckley firm commented that several houses which had been on the market for a year or more had been sold.

Demand is generally strongest for pre-1919 terraced houses which are usually sought by first-time buyers.

However, new property estate agents as far apart as Yorkshire and East Anglia are reporting faster sales in the more expensive categories. Agents in York are saying that homes at more than £75,000 are selling well and the same is being reported in Newmarket.

An agent in Barnes, south-west London, commented in the survey that demand for houses in the £100,000 to £150,000 range is not being satisfied because of an acute shortage.

However, in spite of this buoyant market agents are expressing concern over a shortage of mortgage finance. Mortgage queues are reported even in parts of the North, where demand is not at its strongest, and in Newcastle, Washington, and in the East Midlands.

Areas of highest demand, such as London and the South-east, have lists for loans. In London, for example, a prospective purchaser can expect to wait three or four months for a mortgage.

Mr John Thomas, the Institution's housing market spokesman, commented: "The burst of activity in Budget month was to be expected, but contrary to some recent headlines, no agents have reported gazzumping by sellers."



Mr Christopher Hughes outside his home in Ponders End, north London (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

Driver aims for Mastermind title

By David Hewson

Mr Christopher Hughes, aged 35, a London Tube driver, will know tonight whether he is the BBC's new *Mastermind*.

But like the other three finalists and the audience, he will be sworn to secrecy about the result, which will be revealed only with the final's transmission on May 8.

Mr Hughes has established himself as the leading authority on the exploits of Mr Harry Flashman, the Victorian military hero, sportsman and cad.

His television performance on Sunday night, in which he answered correctly 18 questions about Flashman's ex-

hausted, though scurrilous life, astonished Mr George MacDonald Fraser, the author, who is normally regarded as the leading expert on the character of the wholly understandable ground that Flashman's deeds are his creation.

"I thought he was marvellous", Mr Fraser said from his home in the Isle of Man. "He got two more answers than I did. I could not remember the name of a woman in the Indian Mutiny and I wrongly anticipated a question about Palmerston meeting Flashman."

"If I had had the time, I would have been right on both,

but he started me because of the way he went through it."

In fact, the seven Flashman novels, in which real historical detail is cunningly intermingled with the cowardly machinations of a character first seen as the form bully in *Tom Brown's Schooldays*, were Mr Hughes' second choice as a specialist subject.

After winning his first heat on British Steam Locomotives 1900 to 1968, a subject to which he will return tonight, he wanted to opt for questions on C. S. Forester's Hornblower books in the semi-final, only to find that they had been selected by another contestant.

At Christmas Mr Hughes

decided to take the Flashman books instead, and set about rereading them.

Yesterday morning, unmoved by any nerves at the prospect of tonight's final at the Middle Temple, he clocked on for his morning shift driving a Tube train between Cockfosters and Heathrow, returned home at lunchtime to eat with his mother.

Mr Hughes left school at the age of 15 with four O levels and found a job working with steam engines as a British Rail fireman. When the passing of steam ruled out his ambition to become an engine driver, he joined London Transport.

War widows get Labour support for grave visits

By Michael Hansell

The campaign for government assistance to enable war widows to visit the overseas graves of their husbands received a boost yesterday when Mr Merlyn Rees, the former Home Secretary, said he will press in the House of Commons for the Government to provide facility trips to the graves.

His scheme envisages a start with those widowed in 1914 and allows for a steady progression through the ranks of those who lost servicemen husbands until 1967, when the Government introduced the present policy of providing facility visits to the graves of men who died after that date.

The proposal coincided with an attack on government statistics which according to Ministry of Defence spokesmen make sponsored visits too expensive to entertain. Although there are 64,000 widows of Servicemen killed in action before 1967, mostly in the Second World War, it is estimated that fewer than 10,000 would want to make such visits. Allowing for £500 a head, which is regarded as a realistic figure, it would mean a cost to the government of no more than £5m.

Mrs Iris Strange, the secretary of British War Widows and Associates, the organization which is leading the campaign for visits, said: "If you take into account those who do not want to go, those who have already paid their last respects and those whose husbands' last resting places are not known, you are left with surprisingly few widows."

"Those who wish to go and cannot afford to do so have in many cases spent a lifetime yearning to go and they must be allowed to before it is too late."

Mr Rees has twice written to Mrs Margaret Thatcher urging government assistance, but she replied that the numbers would be too large and any scheme too difficult and expensive to organize.

Surgeon 'could have simulated suicide'

By David Nicholson-Lord

A surgeon convicted of poisoning his mentally ill wife with a rare anticancer drug could have disposed of her by the much simpler course of writing to the Voluntary Euthanasia Society (formerly Exit), or simulating suicide through an overdose of barbiturates, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Yet Paul Vickers, aged 48, "virtually put his name up in lights" when obtaining prescriptions for the drug CCNU, Mr Gilbert Gray, QC, told the court. There was no attempt to conceal his name or address with a doctor's spidery writing.

"It was virtually a visiting card", Mr Gray added. "He was running the most enormous peril."

Vickers, formerly head of the accident department at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead, is seeking leave to appeal against his conviction at Teesside Crown Court in November, 1981, for the murder of his wife. He was sentenced to life imprisonment with a recommendation by Ms Justice Boreham, the trial judge, that he serve a minimum of 17 years.

The grounds of appeal include alleged defects in the trial judge's summing up of medical evidence and his directions to the jury on the alternative verdict of manslaughter. There is also an application to call fresh evidence from three *News of the World* reporters who interviewed Miss Pamela Collison, Vickers' co-defendant, after she was acquitted of murder.

Vickers, of Moor Crescent, Gosforth, was brought from Wakefield prison for yesterday's hearing. Dressed in a dark suit and tie, he betrayed little emotion from the dock, occasionally leaning forward to concentrate on points of evidence.

Mr Gray said there was no medical evidence that CCNU, which is undetectable after death and was used to create in

Closer link for man's two families

Mr John Knight's mistress and their nine children are to be rehoused in the Cornish village where his wife and their 11 children live.

Mrs Claire Martens has accepted the tenancy of two council cottages at Doublebois, near Liskeard, which are to be converted into one house.

Her new home will be 200 yards from the detached house which Mrs Carol Knight, who is again pregnant, took over just before Christmas.

Caradon and North Cornwall district councils agreed the arrangements after Mr Knight and the women said they did not want to be rehoused miles apart.

Janet Reger reopens shop

The glamorous Janet Reger women's underwear shop reopened in London yesterday, three months after the business collapsed with debts of £1m.

The firm will "concentrate on the upper price level", Miss Reger said at the shop in Beauchamp Place, Knightsbridge, opened with the help of a bank loan and investments by employees, some of whom are working without wages.

£11,000 'closed shop' award

Mr Gordon Phillips, aged 53, who was dismissed after working for 30 years with Clayton-Dewandre, brake manufacturers in Lincoln, when a closed shop was introduced by the unions, received £11,000 in compensation yesterday under the terms of the Employment Act, 1982.

The industrial tribunal which had previously dismissed his case agreed that the employers were "over a barrel" because the closed shop was allowed under law.

Korsa-Acquah remanded

Stephen Korsa-Acquah, aged 20, of no fixed address, was remanded in custody for a week yesterday by Bristol magistrates accused of four bank robberies, attempted murder and kidnapping.

Among the charges are attempting to murder Police Constable Owen Lelen, kidnapping Mr Tony Hutton, a lorry driver, and robbing Lloyds Bank in Bond Street, Bristol.

Threat to girls

London magistrates' courts are being used by men looking for young girls from the provinces who can be lured into prostitution after court appearances, according to Mr Eric Crowther, the magistrate at West London Court, writing in *Justice of the Peace*.

Trader jailed

Robert Hay, aged 43, a street trader, of Matfield Park, Hampstead, west London, was jailed for five years in the Central Criminal Court yesterday for conspiring to steal mail from a train. Four others admitted their part in the attempted robbery last week.

Father's appeal

Mr Arnold Atkins, the father of Gillian Atkins, aged 14, who was murdered made a plea yesterday at Bourne, Lincolnshire, police station to the killer, or anyone who knows his identity, to go to the police.

Dead nurse film

Mr Ronald Smith is supporting plans to make a film about the death of his daughter Helen, aged 23, a nurse, who died during an illegal party in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, nearly four years ago.

Hunt man cleared over cat killed by hounds

The whipper-in of the Berkeley Hunt was cleared yesterday of criminal damage and cruelty to a pet cat killed by hounds on a Gloucestershire caravan site.

Magistrates at Whitminster dismissed summonses brought by the owner of the cat, Mrs Dorothy Newman, supported by the League Against Cruel Sports, against Patrick Martin, aged 25, of The Kennels, Berkeley.

The court was told that the hounds mauled the cat to death after they killed a fox they had pursued on to Berkeley Vale Caravan Park on February 27 last year.

Mr Edward Cazalet, defending, said Mr Martin did all he could to stop the pack entering the site and was not aware of the attack on the cat.

The magistrates ordered that the costs of both sides be paid from central funds.

Last December the league persuaded the High Court to overturn the magistrates' original decision not to issue summonses.

Yesterday, Mr Edmund Lawson, for the prosecution, told the court that Mrs Christine Wilcox, who lived on the site, snatched the 15-year-old cat, called Budgie, from the hounds, but it died.

Mr Lawson did not suggest Mr Martin intended that the cat should be harmed, but he was "reckless" in allowing the hounds into the caravan park.

Mrs Wilcox, who now lives at Hinton Court, Berkeley, said she saw about six dogs attacking the cat.

"They were playing tag-war with it. I managed to punch one of the dogs on the nose. I grabbed the cat and pulled it away." The cat bit and scratched her as it tried to escape.



Mr Martin "Struck in the face"

24 new companies make it a record month for Wales.

The number of businesses changing in Wales hit an all-time peak in February. A spokesman for the Welsh Development Agency said: "We are delighted to welcome these recent arrivals."

Welsh Development Agency
PONTYPRIDD, MID GLAMORGAN CF37 5UT. TELEPHONE: (044 385) 2666. TELEX 497516

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Politics deprives 'peace' of any charitable status

LEGAL AFFAIRS

After the final decision in the Moonies case it might be necessary to look at the whole position of charity law. Sir Michael Havers, Attorney General, said after he had told the Commons that he had made representations for the withdrawal of charitable status only in respect of the two charitable trusts associated with the Unification Church.

Mr Alfred Dubs (Wandsworth, Battersea, South, Lab) in raising the issue asked: "Can we agree that the law as it stands on what constitutes charitable status is confused, that it leads to the difficulty of distinguishing between charitable trusts and lobbying, which leads in the Charity Commissioners having to make difficult political judgments, and that results in anomalies such as organizations that want to further peace and disarmament being denied charitable status while it is not denied in organizations such as the British Atlantic Committee?"

Sir Michael Havers: I think the problem is that the Charity Commissioners have to work on existing law. If indeed the law should be changed, if that is the purpose of his question, then that question should be addressed to the Home Secretary.

Mr Michael Morris (Northampton, South, C): Is he aware that the

Chancellor of the Exchequer persistently uses as one of the reasons for not giving exemption from VAT for charities that there are certain charities which are "undesirable", one of those being the Moonies?

In the light of that, will he make strong representations to the Charity Commissioners that they should now have a review of their charities and charitable status in order to resolve this sort of problem?

Sir Michael Havers: The law is not altogether clear and that is why it has been the problem with the two trusts I have mentioned but any major change in the charity law would require legislation and that question should be addressed to the Home Secretary.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab): Would he not agree that the law is in chaos in terms of the various judgments handed down over the years on charitable status? Is it not wrong that the Charity Commissioners should decide what is "political"? They have just decided "peace" has suddenly become "political" in the sense it was not before.

Sir Michael Havers: The charity law is not in chaos. What has happened is that charity law is of long standing. A lot of the judicial decisions on which the commission act are very old. I think what has happened is that perhaps the law has not kept up with

Dubs: Political judgments lead to anomalies

the change in these sort of trusts seeking charitable status. Originally it was designed to deal with rogues and crooks misusing charitable funds. After the final decision on the Moonies, it may be necessary to look at the whole position on charity law.

Mr Arthur Davies, Opposition spokesman on legal affairs (Aberdeen, Lab): Though he is right to do so in the case of the Moonies, to have to bring a test case is a cumbersome way of clarifying the law on charitable status and would be a considerable undertaking some sort of quick review to look at the implications of the present confused and hazy state of the law, and in particular the powers of the Charity Commissioners.

They continue: "We are not aware of any other toxin which is so widely distributed as lead and which is also universally present at levels that exceed even one-tenth of that at which clinical signs and symptoms may occur."

They conclude: "It would be prudent to take steps to increase the safety margin for the population as a whole."

The royal commission's report contains a number of recommendations covering all the sources of exposure to lead, including water, paint, and food and drink.

Mr John Cunniffingham, an Opposition spokesman on industry (Whitehaven, Lab) said it was a disgrace for the Government to talk about a recovery when manufacturing output was at a 17-year low, certainly the worst output record for any Government for a long time.

Where was the recovery taking place - in textiles, steel, paper, shipbuilding, or engineering?

Mr Baker: There are unmistakable signs that recovery is taking place. Retail sales are 4.5 per cent higher, and housing starts 30 per cent higher than they were a year ago.

Car sales for the first quarter were some 21 per cent higher than they were a year ago.

Thatcher: Recovery under way

suppress the report. It was a forecast only for the next decade.

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Increased demand for British steel

There was evidence of increased demand for British steel products, Mr John Baker, Under Secretary of State for Industry, said during Commons questions.

The forecast published by British Steel in the select committee report on trade and industry is outlined. There is no case for closing down a third of the strip capacity in Britain.

Mr Baker: I congratulate those planning their production and the workforces on producing the right product at the right time. There is evidence of an increase in demand for products. But we still have to leave it to the BSC to make the right product in terms of quality, price and delivery, and to initiate customers with any potential customers.

Mr Hughes said that when the all-party motors group recently visited the Ford Motor Company at Dagenham they were told that only 20 per cent of British steel was being used in the models being produced.

Mr Baker: My information is that Ford Motor Company plan to increase their take-up of steel from one third to one half of their requirements in the United King-

POLLUTION

The Government has accepted a recommendation from the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution that lead additives in petrol should be phased out, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced in a statement in the Commons today.

Replying to questions, he said he hoped that 1990 would be the date from which all new vehicles would be required to use 92 octane lead-free petrol.

Mr King said in his report, before discussing a range of particular problems and policies, he had set out a range of lead additives in petrol should be phased out, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced in a statement in the Commons today.

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1990 target date for lead-free petrol

POLLUTION

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BRANDT REPORT

The United Kingdom overseas aid programme this year was expected to reach £1,120m, an increase of almost 10 per cent over 1982-83.

Mr Francis Pym, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said when he opened a debate on the Brandt Commission report, Commons.

Mr Pym said western governments had had difficulties in adjusting to the reality of the 1980s, the world recession and high unemployment.

But the effect on developing countries had been particularly severe. Many had encountered continuing markets, low commodity export prices, high oil import prices, record levels of interest rates, and mounting debt repayments.

The United Kingdom's prosperity was deeply bound up with the prosperity of the rest of the world, and the world recession had hit developed and developing countries.

Mr Pym said that when the all-party motors group recently visited the Ford Motor Company at Dagenham they were told that only 20 per cent of British steel was being used in the models being produced.

Mr Baker: My information is that Ford Motor Company plan to increase their take-up of steel from one third to one half of their requirements in the United King-

dom. But I will check the discrepancy between us.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): While we all wish the British motor manufacturers to disengage from the Government to talk about a recovery when manufacturing output was at a 17-year low, certainly the worst output record for any Government for a long time.

Where was the recovery taking place - in textiles, steel, paper, shipbuilding, or engineering?

Mr Baker: There are unmistakable signs that recovery is taking place. Retail sales are 4.5 per cent higher, and housing starts 30 per cent higher than they were a year ago.

Car sales for the first quarter were some 21 per cent higher than they were a year ago.

There was evidence of increased demand for British steel products, Mr John Baker, Under Secretary of State for Industry, said during Commons questions.

The forecast published by British Steel in the select committee report on trade and industry is outlined. There is no case for closing down a third of the strip capacity in Britain.

Mr Baker: I congratulate those planning their production and the workforces on producing the right product at the right time. There is evidence of an increase in demand for products. But we still have to leave it to the BSC to make the right product in terms of quality, price and delivery, and to initiate customers with any potential customers.

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Insolvency law review

Urgent consideration was being given by the Government to the Insolvency Act 1985, which would be needed to provide a modern body of insolvency law, Lord Lyell, a Government spokesman, told the House of Lords at a question time.

Lord Bruce of Donington, for the Opposition, said urgent steps should be taken to define the duties of receivers, many of whom had been discharging of assets on behalf of debenture holders at a fraction of their real value, the interests of the unsecured creditors had gone completely unprotected.

Lord Lyell said that on the question of receivers selling assets at below realistic cost the Government had not had any major complaints.

Parliament today
Commencement (2.30): Debates on Opposition motions on East Anglia and on shipbuilding and the by-repairing industries. Lords (2.30): Energy Bill, committee. Water Bill, report. Debate on building societies.

Whitehall brief
By Peter Hennessy
"We have to work very much by a ripple effect, it helps if the ripples are not damaged down at source because not enough cars have been taken to persuade people that all this disturbance is good for them. That is the frustration of education. It takes an unreasonable time to get the great machine moving more than 100 local education authorities, half a million teachers."

When Mr Denis Howell (Birmingham, Small Heath, Lab) two years ago recommended the policy that the Government is accepting today the Secretary of State said: "The Opposition's policy would result in a slower improvement in lead pollution."

Mr Howell said his adoption of what we recommended two years ago would lead to a slower improvement. The Secretary of State said that on the evidence available it would take 25 years. Will it still take 25 years, or possibly 23, to accomplish what we recommended two years ago?

He does not mention a date for implementation. What is his timetable? What date does he have in mind? The case for government will implement this report. (Conservative interruptions). We will set a date for implementation.

Mr King: I was intrigued by his comments about setting a date. I notice that *New Hope for Britain* has a statement about the elimination of lead carefully omitting any question about the date.

I would draw his attention to the graph in chapter 7 of the report from which he will understand that by taking the course we did in the announcement I made two years ago and then the announcement today that after we have achieved in 1985 a reduction for all vehicles to the lower lead level we shall then seek at an early date to introduce compulsory lead-free petrol, 92 octane, for all new vehicles.

That combination is the most effective way of reducing lead levels by the most substantial amount in the shortest period of time.

Mr Howell said in responding to my previous statement that we would get the worst of both worlds, the royal commission has confirmed that we are getting the best of both worlds.

Mr Alan Bell (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L): We warmly welcome this statement, but the motor industry does not know whether it is aiming at two years or 20 years.

Mr King: The evidence given to the royal commission indicated 1992. The royal commission felt this was a pessimistic estimate of what was possible and their estimate was it should be 1990 at the latest. I would hope to see this achieved at an early date.

Mr Robert Cray (Keighley, Lab): What indication is he going to give for local authorities to remove lead paint from schools, which is a problem in many authorities, and particularly those with a large number of Victorian schools painted many years with lead paint?

Would he give an assurance that the Government will be prepared to take action independently of the EEC in getting rid entirely of lead from petrol in view of the fact that our experience is not a happy one in trying to obtain EEC-wide standards for dangerous materials?

For four years we negotiated to increase safety standards in the use of asbestos, which is arguably at least as dangerous as lead, but reached no position of agreement and have not done so today.

Mr King: We are dealing here with what manufacturers would like to be doing but not only in the home market but other countries in the EEC. Therefore conformity is likely to be rather easier to achieve.

I certainly endorse the perfectly proper importance he attaches to lead paint and the problems of old lead paint we have done what we can to help local authorities and will certainly be considering further recommendations in this report.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab): There is overwhelming evidence that the present leaded petrol is seriously affecting the IQ of children. Those who realize that will be disappointed in considering the complacency of his statement.

Mr King: It is rubbish to say there is conclusive evidence about the IQ effect of lead on children. The most recent and authoritative studies in some ways indicate exactly the opposite. It is precisely because of those exaggerated statements that we need to take action. If we want to see a taking a balanced and informed view, it is so valuable. To refer to my statement as over complacent is a travesty.

Foreign Secretary attacks Soviet aid policy
He had chosen all the most respectable platitudes, but had given no sense of the scale and immediacy of the crisis facing the world.

The Brandt report recorded the failure to take the first seriously. Every warning of the Brandt report of three years ago had come true. The situation

Mugabe flays corruption and plans more socialism for Zimbabwe

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Zimbabwe entered the fourth year of its independence yesterday with celebrations across the country, military displays and indications that more rigorous socialist policy will be pursued in the year ahead.

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, attended a rally in Harare at which President Canaan Banana, delivering the key address, said the next year of independence threatened to be "probably the most difficult period we Zimbabweans have yet had to face".

Although Zimbabwe remained one of the most peaceful and stable countries in the developing world there had been a spread over the past year of "a cancerous virus... the dissident menace, which poses an intolerable threat to our continued peace, and prosperity," the President said.

A scheduled display at the rally by the Fifth Brigade, the unit charged with responsibility for recent massacres in Matabeleland was cancelled and substituted by a demonstration of unarmed combat by the new Presidential Guard.

Mr Mugabe has had little to say over the anniversary weekend about the Matabeleland troubles and has concentrated on economic objectives and problems.

In a speech to the nation on Sunday evening he forecasted a leadership shake-up with a scathing attack on

corruption and what he termed bourgeois tendencies in ministers.

In an apparent reference to the recent dismissal of the mayor and councillors of the Midlands city of Gweru he attacked "unscrupulous" officials for avarice and misappropriation of public funds.

"Even Cabinet ministers, with a more theoretical and thus hypocritical commitment to socialism: have, under one guise or another, proceeded to acquire large properties by way of farms and other business concerns," he said.

The severity of Mr Mugabe's words appeared to herald a long-anticipated reshuffle in the Cabinet which, with 32 ministers, is unusually large and costly for a country of Zimbabwe's size and resources.

His utterance in the lead-up to the anniversary also point to a more overtly socialist programme in economic policy.

A professed Marxist, Mr Mugabe has followed a pragmatic economic course in the past three years but on Friday announced plans for large-scale nationalisation of industry.

Writing in *Zimbabwe News*, the mouthpiece of the ruling Zanu (PF) Party, he said the Government intended to acquire control of the grain milling, fuel procurement and national transport industries and "many other areas falling under the various economic sectors". He gave no details.

That intention may be the ultimate deterrent for foreign investment in Zimbabwe. But as there has been only one substantial infusion of investment since independence Mr Mugabe may have decided he will be losing by proceeding on a course which accords more with his natural inclinations.

Officer drain hits Air Force

The Zimbabwean Air Force has been hit by a spate of resignations as the trial approaches of seven officers facing charges over the sabotage operation which devastated the Air Force last year. Seven group captains and three wing commanders have resigned and will be leaving in the next two months, our foreign staff writes.

A number of lower ranks, including squadron leaders and pilots, are also departing, having opted to take early retirement under the so-called Muzorewa incentive scheme.

Drafted in the year before independence, this allows members of the armed forces and civil services to transfer every April a third of their pensions outside Zimbabwe.

Although a similar number of Air Force personnel have resigned in previous years, this is the first time so many top-ranking officers have resigned in one batch.



Papal greeting: The Pope meeting the Armenian Patriarch Karekine II to concelebrate Mass on the outskirts of Rome yesterday.

Korean disco death toll reaches 25

From Jacqueline Reditt, Seoul

Twenty-five South Koreans died and 67 others were injured, most of them teenagers, when fire swept through a disco club here early yesterday.

Many of the victims were suffocated to death by smoke or poisonous gas while others were crushed in the attempt to escape when fire broke out at the club in Taegu, the third largest city in South Korea.

A witness, who escaped, said that as fire spread through the disco which is on the second floor, the place was plunged into darkness. About 150 people fled from the dance floor and fought to escape down a steep, narrow staircase. One person tripped on the stairs and others behind him fell.

According to first reports, an emergency door was shut with chairs in front of it, apparently to prevent customers leaving without paying their bills.

Police are investigating the cause of the fire, thought to be an electrical short-circuit.

Why exercises took Spain by surprise

By Harry Debellus Madrid

Spain's defence ministry was informed about naval manoeuvres off Gibraltar more than two weeks before "the Falklands fleet" arrived at the Rock, but the foreign ministry did not find out until Gibraltar television reported the fleet's impending arrival on April 8, according to a report yesterday in the monarchist daily ABC.

In an article signed by Alberto Miguez, the newspaper said the British Admiralty informed Spanish and Moroccan naval authorities late last month, and in Spain's case the information was transmitted via the naval attaché at the Spanish Embassy in London.

The lack of coordination between ministries, the article said, resulted in "the British fleet entering Gibraltar to the surprise of the public and in the face of apparent indifference on the part of those who already knew and the confusion of our diplomacy".

The paper also reported that the Gibraltar Assembly was to study measures related to the opening of the frontier with Spain. Among such measures to be considered yesterday, ABC said, was a proposal to impose a tax on Gibraltarians visiting Spain.

In another Madrid daily, *Diario-16*, Señor Fernando Arias Salgado, a diplomat and former Centre Party politician, referred to the tension over Gibraltar and maintained that Spain's foreign affairs activity showed "a growing lack of coordination at the administrative level, with regard both to

the principle of unified action and to public expenditure".

Madrid's Monday morning weekly *Hoja Del Lunes* assured readers in the main story on its front page: "Another new delay in the Spanish-British talks about Gibraltar is about to occur."

● GIBRALTAR: After a five-day operational visit the aircraft carrier *Invincible* and the other warships in the Navy flotilla sailed out to begin the annual Spring Train exercise in Atlantic waters. A submarine led them out, helicopters flew over head and a second submarine brought up the rear.

The Spanish destroyer *Languara*, anchored more than a mile away in Algeciras Bay and which had been on lone surveillance duty, also left afterwards as scheduled. Its mission had been described by Madrid naval sources as "emphasizing Spain's presence in waters of its national jurisdiction".

Señor Fernando Morán, the Spanish Foreign Minister, who ordered last week's diplomatic protest, has emphasized that Spain does not recognize any other national jurisdiction in the waters around Gibraltar, only "tolerance of the passage of ships".

Prince Andrew, aged 23, a helicopter pilot on the *Invincible*, appeared publicly on shore only once.

Many Gibraltarians believe that the Prince was observing strict instructions from the Queen to keep a low profile after his indiscretions recently in the Caribbean.

Zhao accuses Vietnam of invading Thailand

Canberra (Reuters) - Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, accused Vietnam yesterday of invading Thailand and said Hanoi was undermining stability in South-East Asia by repeated military action along the border with China.

"To our regret, the Vietnamese aggressors have to this day persisted in their armed occupation of Kampuchea and recently have gone further by frenziedly invading Thailand," Mr Zhao said in a speech to a parliamentary lunch in Canberra.

"What is more, they have repeatedly carried out military provocations along China's border. These actions... have seriously undermined the security and stability of South-East Asia."

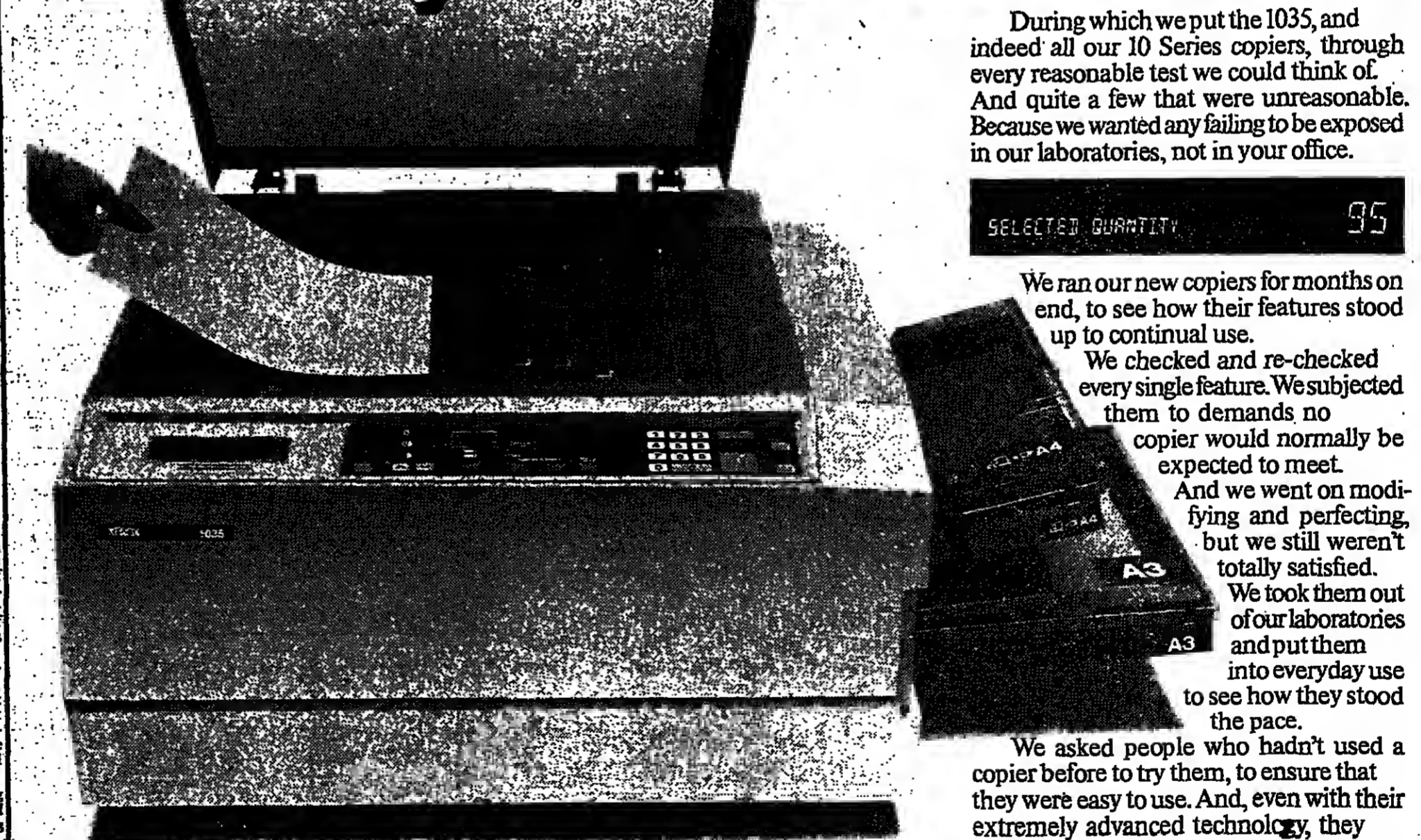
The New China news agency said at the weekend that Chinese artillery had destroyed surface fortifications and earth defence works in Vietnam after frequent Vietnamese border attacks in the last month.

Diplomatic sources in Peking said the clashes between the two neighbours, who fought a bitter war in 1979, were clearly linked with Vietnamese raids on the Thai-Kampuchean border.

China's apparent aim was to distract Vietnam from its dry season offensive against Kampuchean guerrillas, they added.

Asian and Western diplomats say there is an understanding that China would react on its

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Prisoners of conscience



China: Chen Lu

By Caroline Moorehead

Mr Chen Lu, a technician, aged 39, has been in detention since March 29, 1979, when he was arrested at his home in Peking.

It is believed he has not been tried, and it is not known where he is being held.

In the two years after the fall of the Gang of Four in October 1976, a number of unofficial groups were set up, publishing small journals calling for the need to respect human rights and emphasizing the importance of free debate in Chinese society. The international press called this an "emerging free movement".

In the main Chinese cities, posters blossomed on the walls and in Peking one in particular soon became known as the Democracy Wall, and was widely regarded as a forum for democratic reforms and human rights.

Mr Chen became a member of the Human Rights Alliance, one of the better-known unofficial groups. His home address was used openly as a letter-box for the Alliance.

Towards the middle of March, 1979, the official Chinese press started criticising people who were said to be going too far in their demands for democracy.

Mr Chen was only one of many to be arrested, but is now one of the few not to have been released.

Finns try to save talks on security

From Olli Kivinen Helsinki

The eight neutral and non-aligned participants in the Madrid follow-up meeting of the European Security Conference (CSC) have issued a last-minute appeal of all heads of government to save the process from a total collapse.

The appeal, initiated by President Koivisto of Finland, urges all participants to accept the draft final document put forward by the neutral and non-aligned countries when the Madrid talks are resumed today.

Finnish officials briefing journalists on the appeal said that the 34 CSC participants are very near to a compromise, and all important policy matters have been settled. Only the political will to take the final step is missing.

The appeal points out that the Helsinki Final Act is European states and the United States and Canada, but it is now feared that the whole process is in danger if results cannot be achieved in the Madrid conference, which has dragged on for two and half years.

The appeal points out that the draft includes concrete steps in all areas covered by the Helsinki Final Act, including military confidence-building measures and human rights.

If no understanding is reached, it is feared that the whole CSC process will be endangered.

● MOSCOW: The Warsaw Pact military council, which plans activities of the communist alliance, will meet in Bucharest during the last 10 days of April, Tass announced.

The council, which has mainly organizational and administrative functions, met last in October 1981 in Budapest. Its members are the Soviet Union, Poland, East Germany, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Romania.

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE STRUGGLE OF THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE FOR INDEPENDENCE

UNESCO House, Paris: 25-29 April 1983

In defiance of United Nations decisions, human conscience and justice, racist South Africa is still occupying Namibia illegally.

1966

The United Nations terminates South Africa's mandate and assumes direct responsibility over Namibia;

1967

The United Nations Council for Namibia is established as the legal Administering Authority for the Territory until independence;

1971

The International Court of Justice also tells South Africa that it is under obligation to withdraw from the Territory;

1976

The Security Council unanimously calls for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South Africa from Namibia and for free and fair elections in the Territory under United Nations supervision and control;

1978

The Security Council adopts plan for Namibia's independence;

1983

The Namibian people are still denied their inalienable right to freedom, self-determination and independence.

Under the leadership of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), the people of Namibia are waging a legitimate struggle for freedom and independence.

SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA

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The gentle Gandhi forgotten in India

From Trevor Fishlock Delhi Just after the premiere of Sir Richard Attenborough's film Gandhi in Delhi, the Indian cartoonist R. L. Laxman published a drawing of two men emerging from a cinema where the film was showing. One man is saying: 'I understand it is based on a true life story'.

There are many Indians who welcome the Attenborough film as a reminder of Gandhi's actions and teachings because they feel that, to some extent, the Mahatma, engineer of India's independence, has been forgotten in his own land.

Many of the young, who have to study his life in school, see him as largely irrelevant in terms of their own ideas about India in the 1980s, a faded and somewhat cranky figure in history.

There are many in the middle classes, especially Westernized people who tend to view him as an eccentric, just as some of his contemporaries did. He was a difficult and infuriating man.

Indian feelings about him are so complex and sensitive - a mixture of pride, guilt and embarrassment - that it would be very hard for any Indian to attempt what Sir Richard Attenborough did.

The film has been generally well received in India; but it remains a subject of controversy in the newspapers and in conversations and is the cultural talking point of the year. It has made many reflect on the work of a man they do not know well.

Gandhi's image and ideas are often invoked - he was, after all, the father of independent India - but he is something of a totem and there are few who sincerely believe his methods and philosophy have practical application today.

His image is everywhere. Politicians frequently refer to Gandhian principles of self-help, service and humility. A visit to the Mahatma's cremation site in Delhi is obligatory for every visiting foreign official. Even when bandits surrender publicly to the authorities a picture of the Mahatma is on the surrender platform.

Many politicians wear clothing made of homespun cotton and wool, a tradition stemming from Gandhi's rejection of Western dress.

Gandhi's methods of protest remain popular. 'Gandhi fasts', making a token breach of the law in order to be arrested, is a constantly employed device, and fasting, which has a particular Gandhian symbolism, is frequently used to apply pressure on the authorities.

Gandhi called the untouchables 'Harijans', meaning God's Children, and the name has stuck. But treatment of them remains unpleasant and sometimes brutal. Their lot is very slowly improving, but attitudes to them remain largely entrenched. It was a part of the Indian granite that Gandhi barely chipped.

Gandhi is consigned to history in the Indian mind as an enigmatic and idiosyncratic man, a street politician who saw how the British sense of justice could be exploited and knew, as they did, that the game was up in India.

His steady defiance of authority is remembered, but his gentler ideas are largely forgotten. He wanted the humble spinning wheel, which was his symbol, to be the device on India's national flag. But India chose the powerful wheel device of the Emperor Ashoka.

The Pope bluntly told the 300 members of the Trilateral Commission in an audience at the Vatican yesterday that they all came from rich countries and therefore bore the responsibility for encouraging people to face up to their duty of international solidarity.

The commission was formed 10 years ago and includes among its members some leading figures in public life from the United States, Europe and Japan. It is holding its fourteenth conference here.

The Pope reminded them that international solidarity not only involved relations between nations but all fields including governmental relations and those between multinational companies.



Private visitor: Mrs Thatcher receiving Mr Ranasinghe Premadasa, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, at Downing Street yesterday.

Reprisals feared as Libyans go on trial

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn The trial opened here yesterday of two Libyans accused of torturing their fellow-countrymen in West Germany against a background of intensive efforts by Bonn to free eight Germans held in Libya as hostages. Dr Mustapha Zaidi, aged 31, and a student, Abdullah Yahia, are accused of causing bodily harm, unlawful imprisonment and coercion.

The prosecution maintains that on November 13 and 14 the two men tortured two students in the Libyan People's Bureau - the equivalent of an embassy - in Bonn, threatening them with forcible removal to Libya and death because of their contacts with Libyan opposition figures.

Dr Zaidi has been in custody since March 29 and Mr Yahia since April 5. Their trial opened amid strict security precautions, but was adjourned after a few hours as counsel for Mr Yahia demanded more time to discuss the matter with his client. Meanwhile Herr Hergen Mollmann, the Deputy Foreign Minister, briefed Dr Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, and Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, on his talks in Libya with Major Abdul Salam Jalloud.

Herr Mollmann flew there on Saturday to try to secure the release of eight German businessmen who have been detained on unspecified charges in clear reprisal for the arrest of the Libyans in West Germany.

Some 3,000 Germans are working in Libya, where a big public campaign has opened against the Federal Republic in connexion with the trial in Bonn. There is clear concern here that if the two Libyans are found guilty, the Germans will be used as hostages in the same way as American diplomats were in Tehran.

Challenge to reformers Police let rioters run amok

In his concluding article on the recent riots in Brazil, Patrick Knight, our Sao Paulo correspondent, looks at the various pressure groups which took advantage of what began as a demonstration by groups of unemployed.

That the governor of one of the three main states captured by the opposition parties in the November election should come under serious challenge was widely expected in Brazil. But few expected that such a challenge would come less than three weeks after the governors had been installed, and before they had had time to make any impression on the economic and social problems they inherited.

The three governors have blamed anti-democratic forces for the disturbances, and President Joao Figueiredo has said that those responsible were trying to sabotage the country's progress towards democracy.

The protests started with a legitimate, if unwisely timed, demonstration by groups of unemployed. They were encouraged to go further than they might otherwise have done by leaders of the extreme left, either inside or outside the PMDB party, which now controls Sao Paulo.

Bonn anger over death at border

From Michael Binyon Bonn Herr Heinrich Windelen, the Minister for Relations with East Germany, has demanded an official explanation from East Berlin of how a West German traveller died on April 10 during questioning in East Germany by border guards.

The body of Herr Rudolf Burkert, a 43-year-old publisher, was sent back to West Germany in a sealed coffin with the explanation that he had died of a heart attack. West German Doctors, however, found numerous bruises on the body, cuts on the head and one eyelid, and a broken windpipe. These have led to suggestions that the man was severely beaten.

Herr Windelen asked for an explanation the next day without success, and the matter is to be taken up at the mixed border commission on Thursday. He has expressed fears that the details of what happened may never be known.

The incident has aroused considerable anger here, and comes at a time when an East German official has arrived to attend the Hanover Fair.

Yesterday he was in Bonn for talks with government and opposition leaders in preparation for a possible visit by Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader.

Herr Ginter Mittag, an economics expert in the East German Politburo, yesterday met Christian Democratic and liberal members of Parliament, as well as Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, the Social Democratic leader, who expressed deep concern over the border incident.

Herr Mittag was also due to hold talks with Dr Helmut Kohl, but late yesterday it was still not clear whether the Chancellor would receive him in view of the affair.

The dead man, a former boxer, crossed into East Germany with his wife to drive to a boxer's reunion in West Berlin. Some 50 miles inside the frontier he met the husband of a cousin at a motorway rest-stop and gave him a box of sweets as a gift from the Hamburg sports union.

At the East German border crossing into West Berlin, Herr Burkert was ordered out of his car and into a room for questioning. Two hours later a woman doctor went to his wife and told her he had died.

Accused absent at Seveso trial

Monza (Reuters) - A lawyer yesterday described as a disgrace the absence of five senior company officials charged with responsibility for the 1976 Seveso pollution disaster when their trial opened here in Italy.

Four hours after the trial began, the judge granted an adjournment until May 11 at the request of lawyers for both the north Italian town of Seveso and the Swiss owners of the chemical plant in which an explosion caused the calamity.

Lawyers for the five defendants said their clients had chosen to exercise their right not to attend. The blast contained about 4,500 acres with highly toxic dioxin, necessitating mass evacuation, killing animals and causing an outbreak of the skin rash chloracne.

About 200 people including the Mayor of Seveso told the court they were seeking compensation.

A lawyer representing former workers at the factory told reporters its owners, Givandani, a subsidiary of the Swiss multinational chemicals company Hoffman-La Roche, asked for the delay to examine their demands, while lawyers for Seveso commune wanted time to negotiate with Givandani for a financial settlement.

A lawyer representing 23 children whom he described as still suffering from chloracne as a result of the pollution said: 'It is a disgrace that the accused are not here'.

The accused are charged with responsibility for disaster, failure to provide adequate safety measures, and causing injury. They are Guy Walzwegel, the former factory chairman, his wife von Zwehl, the managing director, Giovanni Radice, the technical director, Fritz Moeri the plant designer and Jorg-Anton Sambeth, the technical director.

Left-wing guerrillas killed a sixth defendant, Paolo Paoletti, the production manager. Several West European Governments have been demanding to know where the dioxin waste from Seveso has been dumped since 41 containers of the waste were removed from Italy by lorry last September and their whereabouts became a mystery.

Givandani has paid 103,000 lire (€45m) to the Lombardy region, and separate sums to about 25,000 individuals and the nearby communes of Meda, Cesano Maderno and Desio; but has not reached a settlement with Seveso.

Of the defendants, only Signor Radice is Italian. Mr Walzwegel and Mr Moeri are Swiss. Herr von Zwehl and Herr Sambeth are West German.

In Paris yesterday, police reported an attempted bomb attack on an office belonging to Hoffman-La Roche. They said the bomb, which was defused, was probably linked to the controversial disappearance of 41 containers of toxic waste from Seveso.

Swedish protest startles UN leader

From Christopher Mosey Stockholm Peace activists attempted to disrupt a state visit to Sweden yesterday by Senor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, using the occasion to draw attention to their country's arms exports to the Third World.

Demonstrators placed a barricade of cardboard boxes across the doorway of the main government administration building as the Secretary-General was about to enter, accompanied by Senor Old Palme, the Prime Minister, for a press conference. Each box was labelled with the name of a country receiving Swedish arms.

A security man kicked the boxes away and a startled Senor Pérez de Cuellar was only slightly delayed.

The activists distributed leaflets calling for an end of arms exports to Indonesia and claimed the Swedish weapons had been used to help kill a third of the 700,000 inhabitants of East Timor, which Indonesia had occupied in defiance of a UN resolution.

Tanzania wants a year to clear up corruption

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi Tanzania intends to follow up its recent nationwide campaign against corruption and black marketing, which has now produced about 500 arrests, with a new law requiring all Tanzanians to have 'gainful occupations'.

Mr Edward Sokoine, the Prime Minister, announced this at a rally attended by 50,000 people in Dodoma, central Tanzania, when he asked the nation to give him a year to clear up 'bad elements' in the Government and restore the country's self-respect.

10,000 Israelis demonstrate against Nablus expansion

From Christopher Walker, Nablus

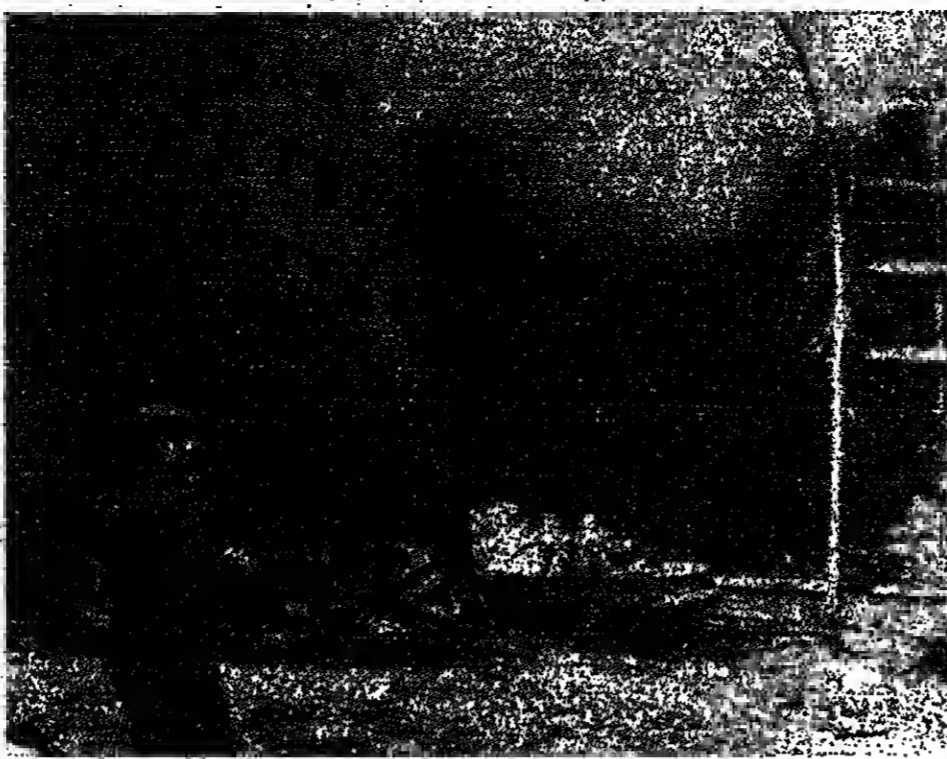
A cluster of 15 inhospitable mobile homes perched precariously on top of Mount Gerizim overlooking the occupied Palestinian town of Nablus became the focus yesterday of one of the largest demonstrations seen in the West Bank against the Begin Government's expansionist settlement drive.

About 10,000 Israeli protesters made their way by coach, car and on foot up the long winding road to the spot which is now known as "Upper Nablus" and is eventually intended to be a Jewish suburb which will house some 4,000 Israelis in new homes built strategically overlooking the 80,000 Nablus Arabs.

The Government's decision to reinforce the symbolism of the ceremony by staging it on the thirty-fifth anniversary of Israel's independence added to the protesters' anger. Many claimed it was a provocative ploy designed to give the impression of national consensus for a type of settlement that many Israelis fiercely oppose.

"I believe that we have as much right to be here as in Tel Aviv, but I do not think we are going to get peace if we deliberately choose to live right among the local Arabs," explained one demonstrator, uncomfortably wrapped in plastic sheeting against the swirling rain. "This settlement is a real obstacle to me or my children ever living without war."

Flapping in the wind yesterday on top of the 800 yard high



Bomb blast in Beirut: A Lebanese policeman (left) standing guard, smoke billowing from the American Embassy and from burning cars, and (right) rescue vehicles.

How ambassador survived explosion

Beirut (AP and Reuters) - Mr Robert Dillon, the American Ambassador here, who was trapped in the rubble of an explosion that wrecked his embassy, said: "We have got to continue" the peace effort.

He told reporters outside the embassy's shattered facade: "The negotiations will go ahead. It's a tragedy and you can imagine how sad and angered we all are but it doesn't change anything. The United States mission will continue."

Mr Dillon, who has been in Lebanon for more than two years, said he was standing up, a telephone receiver in one hand and a T-shirt in another, when the blast occurred shortly after 1pm (12pm BST).

"I was preparing to go out and join when all of a sudden my office collapsed," Mr Dillon said about his top floor office in the seven-story embassy building. "I was unable to move. Someone picked the rubble off me and my secretary and deputy, Bob Hugh, pushed the rubble off me. I went out the window and down a few floors and then out," Mr Dillon said.

The ambassador, who said he had a few cuts, was rushed in a bulletproof limousine escorted by police to his residence in the suburbs, but returned to the embassy later in the afternoon to inspect the damage.

Mr Dillon, a Middle East specialist said both President Gemayel and Mr Shafiq Wazzan, the Prime Minister, contacted him to express condolences.

Blast fails to deter Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan declared yesterday that the car bomb explosion outside the American Embassy in Beirut would not deter the US from its goals of peace in the region.

In a special statement during a White House ceremony at which he presented prizes to Peace Corps volunteers, the President described the bombing as "a cowardly act."

He said he had instructed Mr Philip Habib and Mr Morris Draper, his two special envoys to the Middle East, to press ahead with negotiations for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

The President said the United States remained committed to the recovery by the Lebanese Government of full sovereignty throughout all its territory. "The people of Lebanon must be given the chance to resume their efforts to lead a normal life free from violence and without the presence of unauthorized foreign forces on their soil. And to this noble end I rededicate the efforts of the United States."

Shortly before the President made his statement he had received a telephone call from President Amin Gemayel in which the Lebanese leader expressed his regret for the incident.

He also expressed his firm determination to persevere in the search for peace in the middle east.

Heroism and tears among the scenes of horror

Continued from page 1

which a team of young Lebanese Red Cross men and women were shovelling onto stretchers. One girl in blood-stained white overalls was moving through the still-smoking visa section with a bucket. No-one in that part of the building appeared to have survived, for the men and women, some of them stripped half-naked by the force of the explosion.

Infinitely more terrible was the scene we were to witness a few seconds later. For a slight breeze blew in from the sea and moved the curtains of smoke in front of the Embassy to reveal that seven entire storeys at the front of the building had pancaked down on top of each other and were now suspended perilously over the roadway.

And there, hanging upside down from a fourth floor, his legs helplessly crushed by the concrete above him, hung the body of a middle-aged man in a brown suit, his arms hanging listlessly downwards, an ant-rack of blood running down the floors beneath him.

Perhaps such dreadful things inspire courage. For one of the French soldiers threw his beret to the ground and clambered into the burning Embassy. We saw him later, inching his way along a knife-edge of broken concrete 40 feet up the ruins and scrambling into a black hole in the pancaked floors to look for survivors.

Other people reacted differently. An American Marine

detachment arrived from the airport and stared in horror at the devastation. "I don't believe it. I don't believe it," one of them kept shouting in anger.

Out in the Mediterranean, the helicopter carrier Guadalupe steamed ponderously down to take up station parallel to the embassy, accompanied by its destroyer escort, a symbol of power made impotent by Lebanon's special kind of war.

Mr Morris Draper, one of President Reagan's Middle East negotiators, arrived at the embassy, shaking with emotion and almost in tears. "Where is my wife? Where is my wife?" he kept pleading until someone told him she had been taken,

slightly hurt but alive, from the building.

The killers may have been trying to murder Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's chief envoy, but he was, as usual in Beirut, at President Amin Gemayel's palace at Baabda. Mr Robert Dillon, the tall, white-haired Ambassador, had been in his office when the bomb exploded and was trapped in heaps of rubble when the floor collapsed.

But he was rescued by colleagues and was able to return to the Embassy four hours later and tell journalists that America had "got to continue" her peace efforts in the Middle East.

"The negotiations will go ahead," he said. "It's a tragedy and you can imagine how sad and angered we all are but it doesn't change anything - the US mission will continue."

Mr Dillon later suggested that the bomb might have been brought into the Embassy driveway by a motorist who could have crashed through the security barricade. However, the sad truth is that security was very lax around the American compound and Lebanese sentry boxes - including those beside the driveway - were often unmanned. The Lebanese Army probably realised this, for later in the afternoon they began to threaten foreign correspondents at the scene, tearing film out of cameras and - in one case - hitting a journalist in the face with a rifle butt. Another Lebanese soldier threatened to hit a US Marine press officer.

Rescued: Mr Draper finds his wife unharmed

Pym says settlements are preventing peace

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

There could be no peace in the Middle East unless Israel stopped building settlements in its occupied territories, Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday.

He also urged the Begin Government to start a general withdrawal of forces from Lebanon by agreeing to remove its own troops.

He did not know whether President Reagan's peace initiative could be revived, he told the Foreign Press Association. But its prospects would be "immeasurably improved" by a decision to pull back Israeli forces.

Success on this issue was being seen as a test of American ability to undertake this kind of negotiating role in the Middle East. But no one seriously challenged the view that only the Americans could succeed. Europe's influence was not enough to press its policies on either side, he said.

In a forceful speech which concentrated entirely on the Middle East issues, he acknowledged that the Palestine Liberation Organization had shown in the past few days why so many people doubted its ability to negotiate for peace.

All-church summit plea by Runcie

Wellington - The Archbishop of Canterbury, who is visiting New Zealand, is seeking a peace summit of international religious leaders, our correspondent writes.

Dr Runcie said in Christchurch yesterday that this was one way the Anglican Church could work against the nuclear threat and he hoped that the Pope, the Patriarch of Moscow and representatives of the World Council of Churches would attend.

Tokyo 'believes spy's story'

Tokyo (Reuters) - The Japanese Government believed statements by Mr Stanislaw Levchenko, a former Tokyo-based KGB agent, about alleged Japanese collaborators to be generally reliable, a government spokesman said yesterday.

Mr Levchenko, who defected in the United States in 1979, had identified by name eight Japanese collaborators and another 18 by KGB code names, publishers of the Japanese edition of *Readers Digest* disclosed last week.

Bandit jailed

Delhi (AFP) - Phoolan Devi, the 22-year-old bandit queen, whose exploits in the central Indian outback have become almost legendary here, has been sentenced to five years hard labour for illegal arms possession. She gave herself up in February. Several charges of manslaughter still face her.

Mafioso caught

Palermo (Reuters) - Paramilitary police burst into a luxurious seafront villa near here and arrested Giovanni Lo Verde, aged 44, one of Sicily's most wanted alleged Mafia bosses.

He had been sought since escaping in a blaze of gunfire during a raid on a gang stronghold in October 1981.

Japanese strike

Tokyo (Reuters) - Dockworkers launched a 24-hour strike at Japan's ports to back demands for job security threatened by increasing containerization. Walkouts are also planned at nine container berths for five days from today and three days from April 26.

More flogged

Karachi (Reuters) - Pakistani jailers flogged 12 more Muslim militants for taking part in religious violence here.

Farm demand may bankrupt EEC

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

EEC farmers this year have already asked the Community for 35 per cent more money than they did in the same period last year. This means that the Community could all but have exhausted its available money by December.

This sobering calculation was made in a paper issued yesterday by the European Commission as agriculture ministers began a meeting in Luxembourg to fix EEC farm price increases for the year ahead.

Despite the prospect that their claims could bankrupt the EEC, seven of the 10 ministers pressed for increases over and above the 4.2 per cent average being proposed by the Commission.

West Germany and The Netherlands, alone, were prepared to accept the proposals as they stood. Only Mr Peter Walker, the British minister, argued that the new estimates showed there had to be a reduction in the suggested increases.

The Commission admits in its paper that the calculations made when the farm price proposals were drawn up last December were wrong on two points. First, it estimated that the average increase in farming wages would be lower than the 9

per cent achieved. Second, it underestimated the quickening rate for increase in milk production, which still "shows no signs of flattening".

The effect of these miscalculations is that instead of needing a relatively modest £10m to fund their farm price proposals this year, the Commission now estimates they will need anything up to £1,200m - which is all the extra available money the Community is allowed to raise this year.

This means that agricultural spending is once again rising faster than the Community's ability to raise money. This trend runs counter to all the assurances that Britain has been seeking in its attempts to negotiate what it hopes will be a fairer level of EEC budget payments to the Community.

The new Commission estimates show the level of agricultural spending in the first five months of this year will be £9,600m which is £600m on the original estimate.

The agricultural ministers, with the vociferous exception of Mr Walker, seemed relatively unmoved by these figures. For his part he said it would now be "very difficult" to get an agreement during the current meeting, which is due to end tomorrow.

Spain will cut back on nuclear power plants

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

Spain will reduce its commitment to nuclear power and possibly abandon the construction of some nuclear plants which are already being built, according to Señora Carmen Mestre, the Director-General of Energy.

Addressing a symposium at the Ministry of Industry and Energy, Señora Mestre emphasized the need to scale down investment, which was based on over-optimistic calculations of future energy needs. She also emphasized the desirability of awaiting for the development of absolute guarantees of safety nuclear power stations.

However, informed sources indicated other compelling reasons for scaling down its nuclear power plans which Señora Mestre did not mention. They are both economic and political. In the first place, the current expansion of Spanish energy facilities was financed to a considerable extent with loans to power companies from

foreign banks, mostly in dollars. The depreciation of the value of the peseta means that the power companies have to repay in dollars the equivalent of nearly twice the amount of pesetas borrowed.

In addition, refinancing and high interest rates pose the threat of serious financial difficulties for the country's power companies unless the requirements contained in existing national energy plan are revised downward.

Sources pointed out that finance costs in some companies are now in the neighbourhood of 35 per cent, and a business failure of big power companies "could bring the whole economy tumbling down."

At the same time there is increasing political opposition to the use of nuclear power. This is reflected in work stoppages and, in some cases, deliberate destruction, as well as more rigorous safety inspections.

Running of America kept in the family

From Our Own Correspondent Washington

The Reagan Administration critics are seeking to find out how the children and other relatives of some senior Administration officials have got well-paid jobs with the Federal Government for which they appear to have no special qualifications.

Most have been taken on by the United States Information Agency, which is responsible for putting out information about American policy and culture overseas.

Since President Reagan came to office the agency has taken on at least 150 political appointees, many of whom have been given plum posts in London and Paris.

Among those who have benefited from the agency's liberal hiring policy are the sons and daughters of Mr William Clark, the National

Security adviser, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, and Mr Alexander Haig, the former Secretary of State.

The agency is run by Mr Charles Wick, a former head-leader and producer of the film *Snow White and the Three Stooges*.

Senator Edward Zorinsky, a member of the Senate foreign relations committee, has written to Mr Wick demanding to know whether the appointments "violate the letter or the spirit of any anti- nepotism laws or regulations."

A spokesman for the agency insisted the appointees were all qualified for their positions.

As is the way with Washington, this mini-scandal has somewhat inevitably been dubbed "Kiddiegate."

Lippizaner chief blamed for deaths

Vienna (AP) - Two prominent veterinary surgeons have accused Herr Heinrich Lehner, director of Austria's Lippizaner stud farm of responsibility for the deaths of 39 prized horses, saying he repeatedly ignored expert advice to inoculate the animals against a deadly epidemic.

Herr Lehner rejected the accusation, saying that he had never heard a thing about the importance of the inoculations until yesterday and accused Professor Kurt Arbeiter and Professor Franz Buerki of Vienna's renowned Veterinary University, with publishing their critical comments as an act of revenge against him.

He implied in an interview that they were trying to cover up their own incorrect behaviour by criticizing him.

After a minor outbreak of herpes virus-induced rhinopneumonitis at Vienna's Spanish Riding School in 1979, Professor Buerki first wrote to Herr Lehner "urgently" recommending inoculation at the farm to prevent the threatened expansion of the disease, the statement said.

"All warnings remained ignored" by Herr Lehner and officials at the Agriculture Ministry, in charge of the farm, Herr Lehner implied that the accusations were meant to divert attention from the fact that the professors had declined to visit the farm during the worst of the crisis, despite his express pleas.

Queensland worst for Aborigines

From Tony Dubeodiu, Melbourne

Results of research published in the latest issue of the *Medical Journal of Australia* reveal that the death rate from infectious diseases among Aborigines in large reserves in Queensland is 90 times higher than the state average.

The research, based on Queensland government data not normally made public, also showed that the death rate on the reserves from heart disease, violence and accidents was three times higher.

The Queensland health authorities originally made the semi-confidential figures available to defence counsel for an Aboriginal who pleaded guilty to, and was convicted of, the manslaughter of his common law wife. The information was used to prepare a sociological study of life on the reserve for the court.

Dr Paul Wilson, a sociologist, who is one of the authors of the report, said that the reserves with highest death rate were those run by the State Department of Aboriginal and Islander Advancement. The researchers study the mortality rate on Queensland's 14 largest reserves with a total population of over 11,000.

The researchers also found that the relatively high mortality rate did not necessarily diminish even where there were reasonably high standards of public hygiene such as sewerage and good water supply.

Army gets its way in Thai election

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

The general election in Thailand yesterday appears to have produced the result wanted by the Army, which was largely responsible for the election being called two months early.

Although many votes are still uncounted it appears likely that, as predicted, no party has won a majority, and consequently the next government will be another coalition.

Seven hours after counting began six different parties had won seats, indicating that the new Parliament, like the last, would have a fragmented membership.

It is the type of assembly the Army had in mind when last month it forced the abandonment of a new electoral system designed to give the larger political parties a good chance of obtaining a workable majority at this election.

The results so far declared give nine seats to the Social Action Party, the largest in the former Parliament, 11 to the Democrats, six to the Chart Thai party, and smaller numbers to three other parties. Independents appeared to be

doing badly. There are 324 seats to be filled.

Sitting members were holding their seats in almost all these results. The Army would see the emergence of a civilian government with a workable majority in Parliament as a threat.

Many national figures feared that such a result might have prompted the military to overthrow the government by force. One of those who said he "hoped and prayed" he would not win because of that danger, is Mr Kukrit Pramo, a former Prime Minister and leader of the Social Action Party.

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Starring in the rain

LADIES AND GENTLEMAN.

I am proud and honoured to receive this Oscar from you tonight. It is the first time in 54 years of the Academy Awards that a Raincoat has been singled out by the Motion Picture Industry - even though it has featured heavily in the history of Hollywood. I think especially of those very wonderful performers Greta Garbo and Humphrey Bogart, both sadly no longer with us. I salute the style of that great lady Lauren Bacall. I should also like to honour the memory

of the legendary Marlene Dietrich in her man's trench coat and to remind you all of that successful long-running cinematic series *Sex Appeal in the Rain*, starring Sophia Loren getting wet.

A raincoat is only as good as its producers, and I share the glory of this Oscar with Aquascutum and Burberry who have given me so much support over the years. I was especially pleased to see the award for Best Colour Range go

to Aquascutum for its newly refurbished mackintosh department in Regent Street.

To my distributors, I also express my gratitude, especially to Harrods, who have included so many different styles, to Simpsons for elegance and variety, to Harvey Nichols for designer collections, and to Fenwick who do so much at popular prices for young people.

Finally, I should like to thank the one thing that has

made this award possible. The raincoat, as you know, is a British success story. And we in Britain have something back home that you in Los Angeles saw for the first time during the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II last month.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I accept this Oscar on behalf of the British Rain, that has fallen continuously on my country for the past month, thus ensuring me a long successful run.



BEST ALL-ROUND PERFORMER: The Classic Trench (right), starring Marlene Dietrich, Greta Garbo, Humphrey Bogart, Marilyn Monroe, Jeanne Moreau and the entire population of Japan. Produced in lightweight lined cotton, tan only, sizes 36in-44in, £185 from 92 Department at Aquascutum, 100 Regent Street, London, W1. Felt hat by Bermona. Sheer tights from Elbeo. Silletto court shoes from Freemans Mail Order.

NOMINATIONS: Classic Burberry with distinctive check lining at £175. Marks & Spencer's double-breasted raincoat with small check lining, in stone and light brown, £45. Dammac's trench from Fenwick, £57. Big nylon foldaway trench coat £19.99 from F&P, 125 Long Acro, Covent Garden, WC2.

BEST SUPPORTING ROLE: Black Cire (above), starring Lauren Bacall and Juliette Greco, shot mainly on location on the Left Bank in Paris, with brief flashes of shiny PVC in King's London in the 1960s. Produced in rubberized cotton in black only, four basic styles, single and double breasted, sizes to order £65 from Weather Vain, 283 Sandycroft Road, Kew, Surrey. Perspex and leather waist-cincher £22.95 by Nancy Fisher from Stirling Cooper. White circular skirt £24.99 by Strawberry Studio. White sweatshirt sweater £29.95 from Fenwick.

NOMINATIONS: Original 1960s PVC from Camden Lock and Kensington Market. Sweet Charity's black plastic mini mac £19.50 from First Floor, Kensington Market, High Street, Kensington, W8, p & p £2.00. Stirling Cooper's shiny grey three-quarter mac £39.99 from 94 New Bond Street. Millets' range of plastic and rubberized macs and jackets from £2.99.

BEST SEX APPEAL: The White Raincoat (far right), starring Sophia Loren, Gina Lollobrigida, all cinema journalists and Walls Cornetto salesman. A sultry tale of passion in Italy in the 1950s, recently reissued. Produced by Michael Mortell with eyelid trim and showerproof leather collar £139 from Weathercoats department at Harrods, also in khaki and brown. Animal paw-print top £3.95 from Pacific, New Bond Street. Headscarf £2.95 from Fenwick. Gloves by Dent-Fowles.

NOMINATIONS: Feminella at Fenwick, £59 with stand or turn-down collar. Anna Marie Beretta's white plastic and tulle cape for Ramoport, £127 from Harvey Nichols. Film-Fire's clean and simple styling from a wide range at Selfridges, Oxford Street.



PHOTOGRAPHSNICK BRIGGS
MAKE-UPStars' visages created by CLIFFORD BRAKE for REVLON using their Pink in the Afternoon range
HAIRCLIFFORD BRAKE for MICHAELJOHN
FASHION ASSISTANTCHRISTINE PAINELL

FASHION EDITOR'S COMMENT

Are the TV companies pulling the woolies over our eyes? The only radical change that I can see over my children's shoulders in the morning, is that Nick Owen's sweater has taken over from Frost's business suit. Any other alterations to morning television are purely cosmetic.

The fuss over Selma's poached egg eyes, Frank Bough's ruffled jumpers and Angela's headmistress hairstyle has been greeted by the Famous Five as signs of trivial media reaction and poor public taste. I do not disagree so lightly the fact that the biggest star of breakfast television has been the sweater. For who still believes that what you wear is not an important signal (for both sexes) of who you are, what group you identify with or which image you are aiming for?

The fashion catchphrase of the last decade has been that "anything goes", and it is true that the sartorial standards which equated clothes with status have been unspiced. But dress is still an identifiable badge of class, career, age, or even regional groupings, and in the current fashion anarchy, the desire to identify is stronger than ever.

The cult of Preppy clothes in America and the Sloane Ranger

affection of green wellies and heekies are used as secret weapons in a guerrilla war of class, in which the rules are changed as soon as the masses discover what the elite are wearing.

In Germany, the political fight between the Greens and the Christian Democrats is being acted out in costumes so corny they look like a caricature: long hair, beards and blue denim against sober suits, collars and ties.

The Greenham Common women dress in a parody of protest style, although my anti-fashion sisters will not thank me for pointing to the wellies and clogs, the leg warmers and hand knits, the badge-decorated dungarees and the ubiquitous woolly hat. (It has become such a potent peace symbol that the local residents refuse to wear it lest they should be identified with the invaders).

There was an earlier peace style of duffels and corduroys, as worn by readers of the *New Statesman* and still worn by old statesmen like Michael Foot. The fashion exhibition at the Brighton Museum actually has the CND uniform of dark duffel coat and badge on display.

Now fashion has become so fragmented that whatever your

cause you dress for it. Earth mothers and middle aged hippies still cling to floral prints and ethnic accessories (kappa shoulder bags, straw baskets, long woolly scarves and shawls). The unemployed are drawn to the smart suit, dad's badge of office life. The uniformed classes wear their authority off-duty with knife creases down their terylene slacks. Army wives identify in elbow-patched sweaters, a pastiche of the paras.

In this kaleidoscope of style, these is the know recognises it when they see it. (I like the Camden Palace follows the tradition of all fashionable nightspots by insisting on a certain standard of dress, although they are smart enough to make their own valuation and not get hoist by a collar and tie).

The only obvious mainstream movement of the last decade, has been away from formal clothes and towards sportswear (although I believe that this will now begin to go in reverse). Given that casual wear is now king, it was very unwise of TV-am to think that presenting a smart face to the waking world would endear them to the viewing public. So on with the sweaters - and on with the show.



Hepworths: after Next for women, a First for men

Can Terence Conran do a Next on Hepworths itself? The Next fashion chain sprung fully clothed - under the design inspiration of Conran - from the remains of 78 Kendalls stores 18 months ago when they were bought by Hepworths. Now Next has a £40m turnover, more than 100 branches and an image of dynamism in coordinating women's wear.

The slider Hepworths men's stores took up the challenge last week with a show that had everything from a camped-up film producer to a rag week student wearing nothing but a college scarf. (He was soon dressed from stock.)

More important, Hepworths in Regent Street, along with 150 of the 283 high street stores, has had a face-lift. A video film of a week in the life of a team of British workmen, showed us how a shop can be re-fitted at high speed with elegant grey-felt walls decorated with burgundy carriage lines (just coincidentally the Conran-designed colour scheme at Next).

Blouson jacket £24.99, sweater and shorts both £9.99 from Hepworths. Photograph by HARRY KERR.

Terence Conran himself, wearing a pink tie and an enigmatic smile, told me that Next was the model for the new Hepworths, although things tend to move at a slower pace in the menswear business.

"The Hepworths image has been honest, solid and traditional," says Bob Russell, managing director of Hepworth (Retail) Ltd. "We have been more than a year planning its re-birth and taking a fresh look at men's clothes."

The new shops, says Mr Russell, are designed in colour scheme and lay-out to appeal to the female shopper and the coordination of the clothes is also aimed at the sharper fashion eye of wives and girlfriends. "We don't underestimate the importance of the woman who visits the store during the week and comes back at the weekend bringing her man."

Mr Russell speaks reverently of the "soft statement" wall panels showing coordinated outfits, with rails of clothes aimed at the 24 to 45 age group (the original target of Next, although their customers now tend to be younger).

The real change of image for Hepworths lies in the clothes, which are still fairly middle-of-the-road in style and colour but now concentrate more strongly on sportswear, with casual shirts, blouses and unstructured jackets edging out the formal suits.

Hepworths have been known for over a century for their suits. Now 50 per cent of the merchandise is in casual wear with every accessory, from underpants to umbrellas on sale, alongside the more formal coats and raincoats.

But the real news, which is sending a frisson of fear through the rest of menswear retailing, is that Hepworths have launched a new own label brand of casual wear called First. Whatever Next?

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WHEN BRITISH IS BEST



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SPECTRUM

Early in 1940, under threat of invasion, Churchill turned his thoughts to three strategically vital Irish ports which had been ceded to Dublin only two years earlier. In an extract from his new book, Robert Fisk reveals Churchill's offer of a united Ireland, and how it was rejected

Getting the Irish out of neutral

In the emotional shock of June 1940, Winston Churchill tried to withstand the effects of the European debacle with visions of defiance and generosity. When France was collapsing under the German advance, he searched for some epic device with which to rally his broken ally...

It was an audacious gesture, the ramifications of which were scarcely considered by the French, who, in any case, promptly turned it down. But it illustrated the extravagant way in which Churchill's mind was moving at that traumatic period...

MacDonald was Minister of Health in Churchill's coalition government but he was also the minister who, with Chamberlain, had been most closely involved in handing back the Royal Navy's Irish treaty ports shortly before the Second World War...

It was to be the beginning of an historic dialogue between the British and Irish Governments that held out, in however fragile a form, the possibility of a final British withdrawal from Ireland after hundreds of years of repression and settlement...

MacDonald thought this "entirely impracticable". There was, he said, no prospect that the people of Ulster would agree to desert Great Britain at the moment when her situation was more perilous than it had been for a century...

De Valera thought that some of his colleagues might be critical of this proposal - the possibility that American ships and troops could protect Ireland's neutrality was his own idea - but that the only way in which mutual difficulties could be overcome would be to establish a neutral United Ireland...

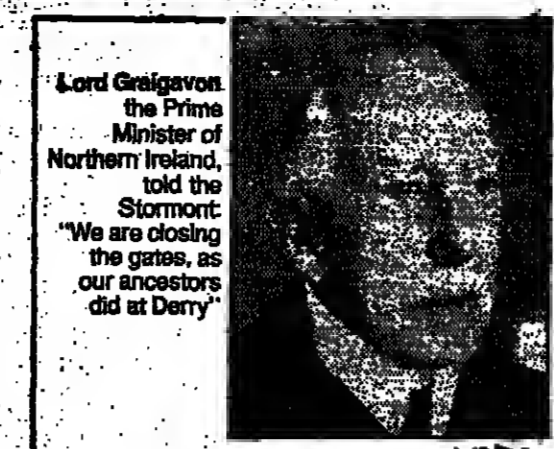
any rate for the time being. If both parties desired it, a Joint Defence Council to be set up at once, at the same time, in order to secure Eire's neutrality against violation by Germany, British Naval ships to be allowed into Eire ports, British troops and aeroplanes to be stationed at certain agreed points in the territory...

De Valera rejected the suggestion. His people, he said, would regard the admission of British forces before a German invasion as an abandonment of strict neutrality, and national unity in the face of the German threat would be broken...

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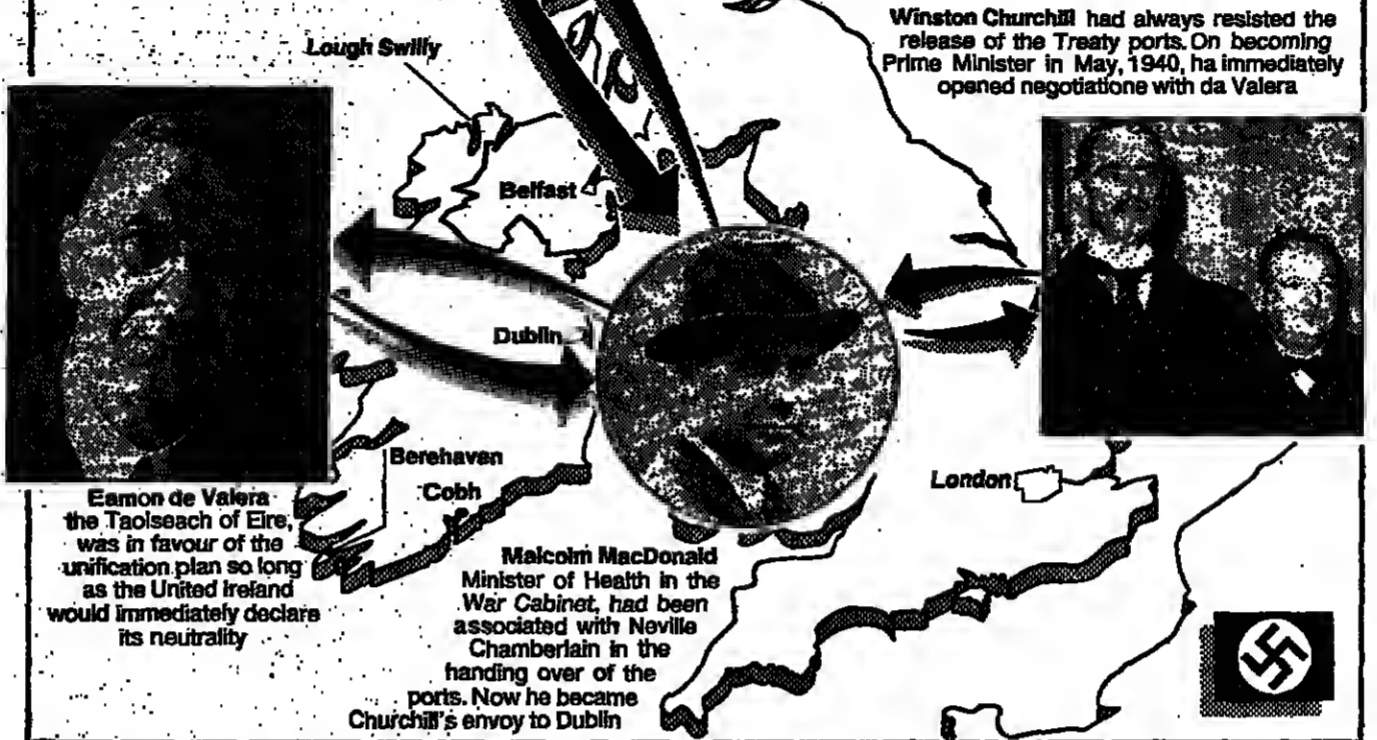
De Valera now seemed more interested. MacDonald wrote in his report to London that "he answered that if there were not only a declaration of a United Ireland in principle, but



Lord Craigavon, the Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, told the Stormont: "We are closing the gates, as our ancestors did at Derry"

- May 29 British evacuation of Dunkirk
June 3 Admiralty Invasion Warning Sub-Committee hears rumours of German plans to invade Ireland
June 12 Chamberlain invites de Valera and Craigavon to a meeting in London
June 14 Both refuse
June 17 MacDonald visits Dublin to discuss Irish neutrality with de Valera
June 21 MacDonald returns to Dublin with an informal suggestion of Irish union
June 25 War Cabinet discusses de Valera's rejection

The Treaty ports, handed back to the Eire Government in 1938 after prolonged negotiations, were seen as vital locations for anti-submarine units in the protection of British shipping



Winston Churchill had always resisted the release of the Treaty ports. On becoming Prime Minister in May, 1940, he immediately opened negotiations with de Valera

Eamon de Valera, the Taoiseach of Eire, was in favour of the unification plan so long as the United Ireland would immediately declare its neutrality

Malcolm MacDonald, Minister of Health in the War Cabinet, had been associated with Neville Chamberlain in the handing over of the ports. Now he became Churchill's envoy to Dublin

also agreement upon its constitution, then the Government of Eire might agree to enter the war at once... but the constitution of a United Ireland would have to be fixed first.

MacDonald's discussions had lasted two days and the British Government considered the results on June 25. Chamberlain presented the Cabinet with a memorandum summarizing the talks and taking up MacDonald's hint that the Irish Government might be "considerably influenced" by a promise of military equipment...

Chamberlain then proposed that MacDonald should return to Dublin with a formal plan for the unification of Ireland and the entry of Eire into the war on the Allied side. It was the first substantive offer of a United Ireland to be sent to de Valera...

MacDonald argued that the declaration, which would already have received the agreement of the Northern Ireland Government, would settle the issue of unity. "It would be most dishonourable", he said, "if that declaration of policy were broken afterwards. It was unthinkable that the promise should be broken."

De Valera was still deterred by the prospect of entering the war, so intended to put considerable pressure upon the elderly Craigavon if he opposed the scheme. "I do not believe", Chamberlain told the British Cabinet in disingenuous fashion, "that the Ulster Government would refuse to play their part in bringing about so favourable a development."

tative of Eire and Northern Ireland to be set up immediately.

4. Eire to enter the war on the side of the United Kingdom and her allies forthwith, and, for the purposes of the Defence of Eire, the government of Eire to invite British Naval vessels to have the use of ports in Eire and British troops and aeroplanes to be stationed in such positions in Eire as may be agreed between the two Governments.

5. The Government of Eire to intern all German and Italian aliens in the country and to take any further steps necessary to suppress Fifth Column activities.

6. The United Kingdom Government to provide military equipment at once to the Government of Eire.

The decisive condition attached to this document, of course, was the acceptance of the plan - the "assent" as Chamberlain put it in his legalistic way - by Lord Craigavon's Northern Ireland Cabinet in Belfast. There can be little doubt that Chamberlain

MacDonald tried a personal approach: "I said that I would like to speak for a few moments not as a representative of the United Kingdom Government, but as a private individual whose sympathies were on the side of the establishment of a United Ireland, and who at the same time knew British politics and the British Parliament pretty well. The present was the best opportunity that had yet offered itself of a union of the whole of Ireland being achieved. Such an opportunity might never return. If the North and the South could be united on the basis of their being joined together in the prosecution of a war in defence of the freedom of the whole of Ireland against the Nazi attack, then that union would not be broken afterwards."

MacDonald believed that "the best chance of Ireland eventually becoming united would be if the 26 Counties came fully into the war. Both parts of Ireland would then be fighting side by side; their union would be sealed by comradeship in arms. It would be very difficult to bring that unity to a sudden end at the close of the war. I knew the temper of my generation in British politics. We should not give any encouragement after the war to the revival of old, barren controversies."

Equally, however, if those who had spoken so much about liberty shrank from liberty's defence in its supreme hour of danger while Ulster fought fully for that defence, "then the differences between the 26 and the Six Counties would certainly be aggravated and enlarged, and we politicians at Westminster who had gone through the fight would never agree to handing Ulster over to Eire against the former's will."

In a secret telegram next day, MacDonald urged the British Prime Minister to reinforce Britain's offer of a United Ireland "by insertion of words which would give specific assurance on this point." When Churchill read MacDonald's telegram, he wrote in the margin next to this line: "But all contingent upon Ulster agreeing and 3 Ireland coming into the war."

Craigavon, at this time, had not heard from Chamberlain for more than a week, and was clearly suspicious of the British Government's silence. On June 26, the day MacDonald returned again to Dublin, he wrote a nervous letter to Chamberlain to tell him about a conversation "a friend" had held the previous day with de Valera. According to Craigavon, de Valera told his anonymous confidant that "it would be impossible for him to abrogate the position of neutrality on account of

the strength of his 'Fifth Column'. My friend suggested that if he would declare himself as willing to come in with Britain, I would be glad to meet him anywhere at any time to talk over mutual civil defence provided no 'constitutional' questions were touched upon. Mr de Valera's answer was: "Quite impossible."

Craigavon did not name his informant, and would reveal only that he was an "absolutely reliable source". It was a sad attempt to counterbalance the reports which Craigavon must have known MacDonald was sending back to Chamberlain from Dublin, and the letter - with its fulsome desire to be of assistance and its gloss of truth about de Valera - received no reply.

Nothing, however, could have equalled the sense of betrayal that Craigavon felt when he received details from Chamberlain of the Dublin negotiations. He fired back a cypher telegram to London, a proud, impetuous, explosive message of a kind that no Northern Ireland minister had ever before sent to the Imperial Government:

"Am profoundly shocked and disgusted by your letter making suggestions so far reaching behind my back and without any pre-consultation with me. To such treachery to loyal Ulster I will never be a party."

Churchill's War Cabinet, however, had moved forward in their professed commitments to Irish unity. The declaration accepting the principle of a United Ireland was now strengthened by an additional clause specifying that "this declaration would take the form of a solemn undertaking that the Union is to become at an early date an accomplished fact from which there shall be no turning back."

For Britain, the surrender of Northern Ireland to Eire might be a necessary sacrifice to secure her own safety - to reinvest for a few years that 500-mile semi-circle of Naval defence - and it was one which the British Government could propose in all seriousness in the summer of 1940. If Northern Ireland was a "loyal province" to Churchill, it could appear to other British ministers as a 19-year-old anachronism whose people would not "refuse to play their part" in the unity of Ireland if this was in Britain's best interest.

In Northern Ireland itself, such considerations were unacceptable. Protestants who professed loyalty to the United Kingdom were in no mind to demonstrate their faithfulness by dismantling their Government. Craigavon's ministers had directed their energies towards the survival of their province; to seek its demise with the help of another nation was, therefore, not just an act of infidelity on Britain's part, but of "treachery" as well.

It must have been almost a relief for Chamberlain when, on July 5, he received de Valera's curt and formal rejection of Britain's offer of Irish unity. The amended proposals for the Union of Ireland had been considered by the Irish Government, wrote de Valera, but:

The plan would commit us definitely to an immediate abandonment of our neutrality. On the other hand, it gives no guarantee that in the end we would have a United Ireland, unless indeed concessions were made to Lord Craigavon opposed to the sentiments and aspirations of the great majority of the Irish people. Our present constitution represents the limit to which we believe our people are prepared to go to meet the sentiments of the Northern Unionists, but, on the plan proposed, Lord Craigavon and his colleagues could at any stage render the whole project nugatory and prevent the desired unification by demanding concessions to which the majority of the people could not agree."

The occasion was never to occur again. Within six months, both Craigavon and Chamberlain would be dead. MacDonald, thinking that "perhaps Churchill wanted to get rid of me", was dispatched to Canada High Commissioner. Henceforth, Churchill and de Valera would face each other without intermediaries. The border - the scar of partition for those who denied its legality - would remain, and the world war would now give it a new and enduring permanence that would permit it, 30 years later, to burst upon Craigavon's descendants with a virulence of which neither Churchill nor de Valera could ever have conceived.

Tomorrow: How Hitler planned Operation Green, the invasion of Ireland

Galtieri writes: Britain's mistake in Gibraltar

As you must know by now, General Leopoldo Galtieri, who appears regularly in this column as our guest problem adviser, has been punished for writing for MOREOVER by a sentence of detention meted out to him by the military authorities in Argentina. We salute his courage. Here is a man who is prepared to stand up for his beliefs as readily as Lech Walesa or Mahatma Gandhi.

General, what's it like in prison? And how does it feel to be one of the "forgotten"? Bit of an irony, isn't it? - D. F. of Camden.

General Galtieri writes: My friend, I too can see the humorous side of things. One day the head of my country, the next in prison. Usually it is the other way round. But I have no complaints. My warders treat me well - I am after all superior to them all in rank and they jump to it when I give an order. I am allowed to receive visitors, go for horse rides, play a little golf - it is not so bad being in prison. And above all I am getting time to write my book.

General Galtieri writes: Yes, Shergar has been safe and well in Argentina for several weeks; and is much enjoying the introduction to polo. We have, of course, written to your Foreign Office suggesting the exchange of Shergar with the Malvinas, but the Argentine Post Office is not what it was. Leave it another couple of weeks.

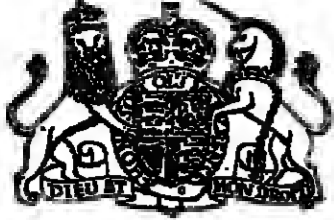
General Galtieri writes: There is quite a good story about Mrs Thatcher which is very popular with the Argentine army at the moment, but it is perhaps not suitable for a family newspaper. Meanwhile, I must go; it is our television hour and tonight it is Benny Hill, whom I find extremely dull.

General Galtieri writes: I don't know if you read about Peter Sutcliffe, the so-called Yorkshire Ripper, being at

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 41)

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Clues include: 1 Pebbles (6), 2 Speed contests (5), 3 Contend for (3), 4 Cranefly larva (13), 5 Shed tears (4), 6 Line up again (7), 7 Abscond with lover (5), 10 Unpleasantly damp (4), 12 Ticks (4), 14 Clockface (4), 15 Memory loss (7), 16 Heroic poem (4), 17 Meat (5), 20 Water plants (5), 21 Bishop of Rome (4), 23 Pale (3).

COURT AND SOCIAL



COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 18: General Sir Frank Kitson had the honour of being received by the Queen as Representative Colonel Commandant of the Royal Green Jackets and on his appointment as Aide-de-Camp General to Her Majesty, after which he had the honour of being invited to luncheon with the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh...

Haynes which was held at St Giles-in-the-Fields Church, London, WC2, this morning.
YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 18: The Duke of Kent, Chairman of the United Kingdom Committee of European Music Year 1983, this morning took the chair at a Committee Meeting at the Arts Council, 105, Finsbury Avenue, London, W1.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. J. Hillwell and Miss E. A. Norton
The engagement is announced between Alister, son of Mr and Mrs G. M. Hillwell, of Rugby, Warwickshire, and Eleanor, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs F. G. J. Norton, of Rugby, Warwickshire.

Marriages

Lord Bruce Dundas and Miss E. S. Elliott
The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place shortly between Richard Wilkin and Jane Elliott.



Fashion for charity: Miss Arabella Baring, Miss Elizabeth Bright, Miss Miranda Kazantzis and Miss Gigi Letts, four of the amateur models taking part in the thirty-first Berkeley Dress show yesterday in London. The show, in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, this year featured clothes from the spring collection of Caroline Charles, of Beauchamp Place, Knightsbridge.

Memorial services

Sir George Hayes
The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Mr Robert Heron (Director of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme) at a memorial service for Sir George Hayes held yesterday at St Giles-in-the-Fields, London. The Rev G. C. Taylor officiated. Miss Elizabeth Littlejohn read the lesson and an address was given by Lord Wolfenden.

Rare Watteau found in flat

A painting by Watteau, the rarest of French eighteenth-century masters, has been discovered in a London flat and is to be sold by Christie's on July 6. It will probably be the first important Watteau to appear at auction this century.

Latest wills

Mr Richard Poor Sitcock, of Gauging, Lancashire, left estate valued at £1,951,875 net. Sir Harold Charles West Roberts, of Cavendish, Suffolk, chief inspector of Mines, 1951-58, left £1,975,303 net.

Latest appointments

Major-General J. M. Searns, RN, aged 55, to be promoted Surgeon Rear-Admiral (D) on August 7 and to be Director of Naval Dental Services in succession to Surgeon Rear-Admiral (D) P. R. J. Duly.

Birthdays today

Miss Sue Barker, 27; Mr C. J. C. Bosanquet, 80; Mr Algy Cliff, 43; Mr Tim Curry, 37; Mr Glynn England, 62; Mr Andrew Gilchrist, 73; Mr John Griffin, 80; Mr C. H. Harpaly, 56; Mr Thomas Hopkinson, Professor John Harlock, 55; Mrs Margo MacDonald, 39; Miss Gladys Mitchell, 82; Colonel C. T. Mitchell, 80; Mr Dudley L. T. Phillips, 86; Mr John D. W. Phillips, 78; Professor A. W. Wilkinson, 69; Lieutenant-General Sir John Woodall, 86.

Service dinner

71st Yeomanry Signal Regiment
Annual and 71st anniversary of the 71st Yeomanry Signal Regiment Officers' Dining Club was held at the Cavalry and Guards Club last night. Brigadier P. A. Dally, Colonel C. D. Thomas, Colonel J. M. Craig and Lieutenant Colonel Castles were among those received by Major-General J. M. Searns, the president.

Law Report April 19 1983

Discrimination claim fails
Sisley v Britannia Security Systems Ltd. Before Mr Justice Tudor Evans. Mr J. D. Anderson and Mrs M. L. Boyle. [Judgment delivered April 18]
Although woman employees working 12-hour shifts with rest periods during which they were to dress and stipend in their undergarments, did not "live in" the premises within the meaning of section 72(c) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, so that the company was not liable for discrimination on the ground that they were not living in the premises, the Act since section 72(b)(ii), which provided a defence where, in order to preserve decency, the holder of the job might object to the presence of the opposite sex in a state of undress, applied even where the undressing was incidental to the work itself.

Law Society Finals

The names of those who have passed all the papers in the Law Society's final examination are listed below (List A). List B shows those candidates successful in one or more of the papers, but not all.

University news

Cambridge
Elections and awards
NEWMAN COLLEGE: Unsuccessful Fellow of New College, Cambridge, Professor J. R. H. Jones, M.A., has been elected Fellow of New College, Cambridge, in succession to Professor J. R. H. Jones, M.A., who has retired.

Undesirable remarks

Regina v Fisher (Carl)
Justice Nolan on April 18, so said when giving judgment quashing the conviction of Carl Fisher at Swansea Crown Court (Judge Owen Stables, Q.C. and a jury) on a count of assault occasioning actual bodily harm to a police officer.

OBITUARY

DR RUTH MORGAN Noted medieval historian

Dr. M. Ruth Morgan (née Moulton), Fellow of Girton College, Cambridge and University Lecturer in French, who died on March 31, aged 41, had already made a notable contribution to medieval historiography and won a reputation as an outstanding teacher.
She attended Bolton School, Girls' Division and was an undergraduate and research student at Somerville College, Oxford, for which she retained a high regard, after Oxford, and a spell of teaching at Queen Mary College, London. Ruth Morgan was appointed in 1969 to a University post in Cambridge, along with a Fellowship at Girton, where she directed studies in Modern and Medieval Languages until her death.

MR GERARD FAIRLIE

Mr Gerard Fairlie, who has died at the age of 83, had a varied life as a soldier, sportsman, journalist, author and broadcaster, but he was also known as "prototypic-after-the-event" of Sapper's popular fiction hero, Bulldog Drummond. It was in a radio broadcast a few years before his early death in 1937 that Sapper informed his audience that he had based Bulldog Drummond on Fairlie though as Fairlie himself was wont to point out, the character had much of Sapper himself in it and may have been at least partially realized in the author's mind by the time he met Fairlie as a still young man in 1919.

Prof. A. J. Allaway

Professor Albert John Allaway, who was head of adult education at the University of Leicester from 1946 to 1967, and after that Vaughan Professor Emeritus, died on April 16.
Allaway made three important contributions to adult education. He was a constant advocate of the need for centres specifically designed for the needs of adult students; he believed that universities should make a distinctive contribution to adult education; and he was one of the first to stress the principle of getting students to learn by personal experience about relationships between individuals within groups and organizations.

Me EUGENE FROT

Me Eugene Frot, who has died at the age of 89, was a controversial French politician, active in the 1930s and, as Minister of the Interior in the short-lived Daladier government of February, 1934, incurred much hostility over the riots in Paris and sat as an independent.
Before joining the Daladier government he held a number of posts, including Minister of the Merchant Navy and Minister of Labour, both in 1932. Frot remained in the Chamber of Deputies until 1940, and served briefly under Petain, but had no further political career.

MR CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR

Mr Christopher Taylor, MBE, a senior partner in the solicitors' firm of Banks, Kennel, Taylor and Gurst from 1955 to 1981, and an active organizer of voluntary services in Liverpool, died on April 12.
Taylor served for 30 years as the general secretary of the executive committee of the Catholic Blind Institute and of St Vincent's School for Blind and Partially Sighted Children. He was the founder of Chris-

Volcker breaks with White House policy

Fed chairman recommends modest intervention to control dollar

From Bailey Merris, Washington

Wall St stocks turn lower

New York (AP Dow Jones) - Wall Street stocks turned lower. The Dow Jones Industrial average was off about 14 points compared with its early gain of 11.

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the United States Federal Reserve Board, in a break with Reagan philosophy has recommended a policy of modest intervention in currency markets to control the erratic dollar.



Volcker: private speech

Mr Volcker reportedly opposed the idea of a new Bretton Woods conference to revise the monetary system and calls by conservatives for a return to a system of fixed exchange rates.

Economic Advisers, reiterated the position that market forces should be the sole determinant of exchange rates.

But other officials, including Mr Donald Regan, the United States Treasury Secretary, have hinted that they would like to see more stable rates through better international coordination of currency policies.

Mr Volcker's remarks came a few days after the announcement that an influential group of international leaders headed by Dr Henry Kissinger, the former Secretary of State, will launch a campaign to force the Reagan Administration to agree to revisions of the international monetary system.

Dr Kissinger has stated his belief that world economic recovery cannot occur without revisions to the system.

City Comment

Holding the line on debt

Brazil's recurring liquidity problems are a timely reminder that the debt crisis is not going to disappear overnight and that the existing rescue packages put in place for a number of the biggest borrowers were essentially holding operations.

Brazil is reported once more to be behind with payments to the banks, and talks between Brazilian officials and the country's main commercial bank creditors which began in London yesterday are aimed at providing the country with about \$3,000m extra liquidity to see it through.

However, there is still a strong likelihood that Brazil will need further credits from the banks later in the year, despite the success it is having in pushing up its trade surplus, and nobody doubts that Mexico will also need more money before the year is out.

All sorts of options ranging from central banks or the International Monetary Fund re-discounting commercial bank debt to developing countries or guaranteeing new loans have been put forward to ensure that the banks keep on lending. However, the only common point of agreement is that everyone would like to have some kind of emergency system in place should the need arise.

In practice, of course, this means that very little is likely to happen until it is too late and ad hoc measures and bullying of the banks by the official agencies will probably be the preferred route once again. In the meantime, it is the extent and vigour of the world recovery which will determine whether another round of emergency rescue packages for the developing countries become necessary later this year.

Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 695.0 down 0.5 FT 100s: 82.19 up 0.10 FT All Shares: 441.52 up 2.0

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.5615 up 1.35 cents Index 83.8 up 0.9 DM 3.8325 Fr 11.51 Yen 371.75

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Base rate 10 3 month interbank 10 1/4-10 1/2

PRICE CHANGES

T S L Thermo: 58p up 15p Johnson & F.B.: 10p up 2p Auto: 35p up 6p

TODAY

Interim: Stewart Nalm. Finalist: Aberthaw Cement, Alva Inv Tet, Bank of Scotland, Crowther (John), Cussins Property, First Charlotte Assets Tet, Hambro Life Assurance, Harrison Cowley, Highland Elecs, Savoy Hotel, Tate of Leeds, Tilbury, Tove, Webster.

UDS seeking 135p a share

There were indications last night that the board of UDS, the success group, could be prepared to change its mind and recommend the takeover terms offered by Hanson Trust.

The closing date for Hanson Trust's last offer of 133p in cash for each UDS ordinary share is Friday and the company has already won acceptance from 25 per cent of UDS shareholders.

£35m ISSUE: Applications open on Thursday for an issue of £35 million of City of Bristol 11 1/2 per cent red stock 2008 at 98p.

FTZ STAKE: Brokers Rowe & Pitman yesterday placed the remainder of Charter Consolidated's stake in rival mining finance house, Rio-Tinto Zinc, worth around £51m.

INDUSTRIAL: Government approval has been given for the English Industrial Estates Corporation to spend £27m on new industrial and commercial projects in assisted areas within England during 1983-4.

Oil price cut 'a success'

The danger of an oil price war is averted as Opec's oil ministers declared yesterday that Britain was once again drawn into the sensitive politics of oil diplomacy.

Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, told a Bahrain news agency that last month's Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries agreement to cut prices by \$5 a barrel had proved to be a 100 per cent success in averting a collapse in world oil prices.

In London, meanwhile, a meeting of Opec's key market monitoring committee ended with ministers declaring that Opec's efforts to prevent further price cuts by withholding production were also proving successful.

There is now no danger of a price war, Dr Mansour Saeed al-Otaiba, oil minister of the United Arab Emirates, said at a press conference Opec's 13 member countries were not cheating on their price-cutting commitment.

Department of Energy officials were again in pains yesterday to deny that Britain was contemplating any deals with Opec, and said that Mr Lawson's conversations with Dr Otaiba had been little more than "a friendly chat".

Claims over the weekend by the United Arab Emirates oil minister that Britain had agreed to restrain its North Sea oil production to help Opec's price cut were described in Whitehall as the result of a misunderstanding.

The Department of Energy has said that it expects North Sea production to be no higher this year than last year, but says this was going to happen anyway, and is not the result of any controls.

Protest over Fraser board circular

Another row erupted yesterday between Lonrho and the House of Fraser over a circular from Lonrho advising shareholders of the stores group to support a demerger of Harrods.

The circular, issued by Lonrho's two representatives on the House of Fraser board and carrying the stores group's resolutions, was immediately denounced by Professor Roland Smith, House of Fraser chairman.

He described it as "glamorously superficial" and full of selective quotations designed to mislead shareholders. He added: "We deplore the unauthorized use of the letterheading of the company. We are advised it is improper and are consulting our lawyers."

The two Lonrho representatives, Lord Duncan-Sandys and Mr Roland "Toby" Rowland, who make clear in the circular they are in the House of Fraser directors expressing a contrary view to the rest of the board, say that there would be big advantages in demerging Harrods from the rest of the stores group.

Their circular says shareholders would benefit through a higher combined share price with Harrods commanding a high price/earnings ratio.

But in a remark designed to ease the fears of Sotheby's experts, who have resisted the takeover, Mr Swid pledged that the firm and his colleagues, Mr Marshall Cogan, would work with the staff.

Mr Swid said: "I am confident and I think we will own Sotheby's by mid-May." He doubted whether Sotheby's would find a "white knight" to rescue it from General Felt's \$92m (£38.9m) bid.

More than half of Sotheby's shares are in American hands, but it is not clear how much of the equity is controlled by Mr Swid and Mr Cogan.

EEC ministers fail to agree size of cut

The need for a cut in minimum export credit rates between the big industrialized countries and the rest of the world was agreed by the 10 finance ministers of the EEC who met in Luxembourg yesterday. But they remained divided on how large the cut should be.

Consequently the European Commission, which is to negotiate on their behalf when the Organization for Co-operation and Development (OECD) meets in Paris next week, has been given little more than a watching brief for the moment.

Insurance companies optimistic

Two leading composite insurance companies - Commercial Union and Royal Insurance, expect to improve their operating results this year after last year's huge increases in underwriting losses.

Mr Cecil Harris, chief executive at Commercial Union, said that last year will be seen as a turning point for the group. He said that although pretax profits this year would be higher than last year's £21.5m pretax, they were unlikely to recover to 1981 levels, when profits reached £89.5m.

The full benefit of the company's efforts to cut costs would be felt at the end of this year, and in full only in 1984. However, the group still has problems in the US where weather claims contributed £198m towards total underwriting losses of £271m.

In Britain prospects are improving as life premiums show signs of increasing, while the Canadian market is recovering.

At Royal Insurance, which reported a 17 per cent decline in pretax profits to £96.5m last year and underwriting losses of £166m against £102m in 1981, tough action has been taken to improve this year's performance.

Tilling chief hits at 'opportunists'

Sir Patrick Meaney, chief executive of Thomas Tilling, yesterday called the £600m takeover bid for his company by BTR "grossly inadequate" and "blatantly opportunistic".

His comments came the day Tilling issued its annual report and just ahead of the formal offer document from BTR, which is due out today.

Sir Patrick claimed that BTR was "trying to pocket Tilling assets on the cheap" and said the group had an excellent future by remaining independent.

Tilling had a big profits setback last year from £73.6m to £43.7m before tax largely because its energy equipment divisions in the United States were hit by the problems of the oil industry.

£60m John Brown order

Britain's depressed engineering industry received a fillip yesterday with news that John Brown Engineering has beaten fierce international competition to secure a £60m power station contract for the Far East.

The business was awarded by Thyssen Steel of West Germany in the face of bids from elsewhere in Europe, the United States and Japan.

The announcement follows speculation recently that the company would be sold to offset the losses of the parent John Brown Group.

Sotheby's takeover 'by May'

General Felt Industries will own Sotheby Parke Bernet, the fine art auctioneer, by the middle of May, Mr Stephen Swid, of General Felt, said yesterday.

But in a remark designed to ease the fears of Sotheby's experts, who have resisted the takeover, Mr Swid pledged that the firm and his colleagues, Mr Marshall Cogan, would work with the staff.

Mr Swid said: "I am confident and I think we will own Sotheby's by mid-May." He doubted whether Sotheby's would find a "white knight" to rescue it from General Felt's \$92m (£38.9m) bid.

The two American businessmen made a general offer of 52p a share for Sotheby's last week but the bid has been rejected by the Sotheby directors and the company's 133 experts have threatened to resign if General Felt gains control.

Independent distributors sell Tom's products to retail outlets and vending machine operators. Distribution is mainly in the south east and south west of the country, and is a staff of 2,400 seven factories, with a head office in Georgia.

At present Rowntree has no manufacturing business in the US, although it does in Canada.

CITY OF BRISTOL ISSUE OF £35,000,000 CITY OF BRISTOL 11 1/2 per cent Redeemable Stock 2008

Marketing and advertising: Torin Douglas

High ratings reward as agencies' dynamism charms the City

Saatchi & Saatchi, advertising agents to the Conservative Party, British Airways and many of Britain's largest consumer goods companies, has produced many successful campaigns. But perhaps its most difficult image-boosting job has been the one to persuade the City of the financial merits of the advertising business.

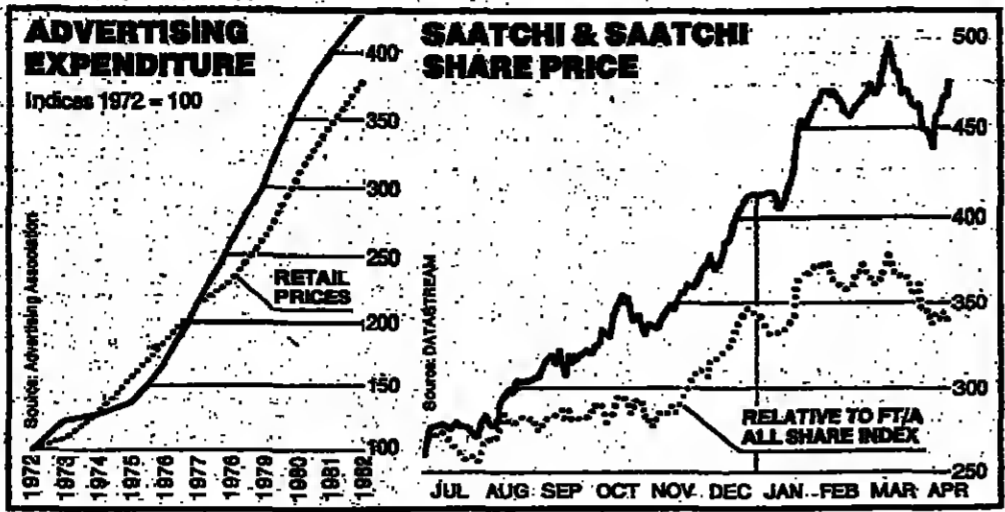
Before Saatchi and the other high-flying ad agency, Geers Gross, came along, the City's rating of the advertising business was about as low as it could be. Now ad agencies and other creative companies in the design and public relations fields have become fashionable stocks with price/earnings ratios of 20 or more. Suddenly, the advertising world is looking to the City for finance and security, instead of selling out to American or European groups.

In January, the bright young agency Wight Collins Rutherford Scott entered the United Securities Market, in the process boosting the price of Saatchi and Geers Gross shares to their highest point of the year, as attention focused on the growth in the ad business. Now Boase Massimi Pollitt, one of the most highly regarded agencies with clients such as Courage, Cadbury Schweppes, Quaker Oats and Gillette, has announced plans to seek a full listing on the Stock Exchange.

Boase will be the first agency to go fully public since 1969, the year after it was set up as a breakaway from the American-owned Pritchard Wood agency. Since then it has built up an enviable reputation for its entertaining and effective television commercials, the Cadbury Smash Martians and the "Gercha" Courage campaigns were its work.

Its turnover has grown from £800,000 in its first year to £37m last year and its pretax profits last year were £190,000, suggesting that it could be valued at £12m or more. Seven of its 155 staff own shares in the company.

Mr Martin Boase, the chairman, is in no doubt about the debt the advertising business owes Saatchi & Saatchi. "I think Maurice Saatchi has done a magnificent job in educating the City about advertising," he says. "He has managed to explode a number of myths that were prevalent - the belief that clients are constantly walking in and out of the door, that accounts are tied up individually, executives will follow them around from agency to agency, and so on."



Martin Boase: "Top agencies are stable"

City that advertising expenditure has held up remarkably well during the recession.

This last factor is as crucial as any in explaining the City's change of attitude to advertising, not least because it has helped to ensure that Saatchi's profits have grown regularly for the last 12 years, despite the recession. They reached £2.5m last year. Advertising expenditure grew in real terms last year

by 3 per cent and the latest Advertising Association economic forecast is for real growth of 5 per cent this year and 7 per cent next year.

Mr Bill Seward of Phillips and Drew stockbrokers says: "The businesses that the City thought were solid, with plenty of assets, such as engineering and manufacturing firms, have been seen to have feet of clay during the last recession, whereas advertising, which was regarded as not entirely solid, volatile and, and the first thing to be cut in hard times, has been

seen to prosper." It's all been turned on its head.

"Agencies used to have a price/earnings ratio of around three-quarters of the average. Now they are seen as premium shares."

Mr Michael Waterson, the director of research at the Advertising Association, says the change in attitude towards advertising is not confined to the City. "Marketing is now recognised as being far more important, which is why advertising survived the recession so well. Many companies really learned a lesson from the 1974 slump when they cut their advertising budgets and found that their competitors, who maintained their spending, gained market share at their expense."

"However, the fundamental reason why the recession has had little impact on display advertising is that consumer expenditure has remained virtually stable throughout. It is sometimes difficult to believe that the worst recession that most people under pension age can remember has actually had an almost negligible effect on consumer spending, but this is nevertheless so."

report, which each year reviews the marketing and advertising business and puts it into its economic context, with great flair and thoroughness, explaining the importance of creating long-term brands and examining the implications for worldwide marketing of technological developments such as satellite and cable television.

Nevertheless, as with most marketing successes, it is not merely the presentation of the advertising business that has changed, but the product itself. Advertising agencies, by and large, are far better managed now than they were at the start of the 1970s. The problems that some of the larger, publicly quoted agencies met then served as an object lesson for the rest of the business. It was little wonder in those days that the City had a sceptical view of advertising.

Long-established public companies such as Bensons and Dorlands found themselves the targets of bids from companies anxious not for their advertising interests but their property. In a hectic few months in 1971, Dorlands was bought by John Bentley's Barclay Securities and sold again, minus the property, to Garroff Advertising, while Bensons ended up in the arms of the American agency Ogilvy & Mather, with its property in

it has taken until now for agencies to have the City back again - Saatchi became a public company almost by accident as a result of its takeover of the already quoted Garland-Compton agency in 1975 - and it is a measure of the work that Saatchi and Geers Gross have done in recent years that those traumatic experiences are now largely forgotten. Pension funds now own a third of Saatchi shares.

Nevertheless, there are those who believe that the advertising boom cannot go on for ever and that it will only take one setback for the City to look anew at these glittering stocks.

Mr Keith Shepherd of Hoare Govett says: "They have got pretty fancy ratings which they've justified to date, but I wouldn't pin high hopes on an inevitable growth. There is a limited amount of resource that manufacturers can put into advertising."

It is no coincidence that both Saatchi and Geers Gross are looking overseas for growth. Geers Gross was the first into the United States in 1978 and has since grown further by acquisition. Last year Saatchi bought the Compton International network (which had links with Garland Compton) and catapulted itself into the list of the world's top 10 agencies, with offices in 37 countries and a worldwide turnover of approximately \$1,300m (£849m).

Whether Boase Massimi Pollitt and Wight Collins Rutherford Scott can match the performance of Saatchi and Geers Gross remains to be seen, but their decision to go public has inspired a number of other agencies to consider the idea.

Mr Boase hopes others will follow. "It would be wonderful if we could develop an advertising sector, it would improve the City's knowledge of our business even further - but he is under no illusions about the pressures that going public imposes.

"Public scrutiny is not something we're afraid of," he says. "With agencies of our maturity of management - our top six directors have been here for 10 years - and the spread and balance of our business it can do nothing but good. That's why we've gone for a full listing and not for the USM."

Other agencies may feel nevertheless that the need for inexorable profits growth is a distracting influence on the business of running the company, making financial requirements of overriding importance. What is certain is that a great many more agency managements are considering the idea.

Once regarded as not entirely serious, agencies are now seen as premium shares

which had set the ad business alight in the 1960s and went public in 1969, at around the same time as Geers Gross.

Kimpher, as it became known, bought a number of advertising agencies and grew to a peak turnover of £26m in 1974, but from there it slipped. After a number of attempts to revitalize the company it was sold in 1977 to the Morrison and Jones International the Guinness banking subsidiary. The individual agencies in the group have since been sold off. It was little wonder then that

Financial notebook

Money services without tiers

A great deal has been written about the impact of technology on the future of the market for financial services. It is widely agreed that the dividing lines between the different types of financial institutions will increasingly be blurred, but there is less agreement on the form that will emerge.

In my view, developments over the next decade are likely to be somewhat different for each of three layers of the market, but one comment is of general application. People are not interested in technology as such; they are interested in something that will make life simpler for them. A person needs a wide range of financial services - short-term and long-term savings, life assurance, protection, money transmission, short-term loans, and a mortgage.

While people may enjoy shopping for food and clothing, they do not enjoy shopping around for financial services; they are confused about where to go for what, and how to decide which product is best. The key to attracting customer loyalty for financial services is, therefore, to package them in a way which will make life simpler for the customer.

The first layer of the market consists of those adults who do not yet have a bank account. These people have traditionally been paid in cash and they are in no hurry to change over to the cashless society.

The phenomenal growth of the building societies over the past 20 years has been built up largely upon the increasing affluence of this group and I would expect the building societies to hold on to their dominant position as they start to extend a wider range of services - such as the Abbey National Chequesave - to their customers. For this important sector of the market, the building society branch may well grow into a financial supermarket.

The second layer consists of the customers of the clearing banks. Most of the banking groups already offer a complete range of financial services, ranging from insurance broking to estate agency, yet few people think of buying all the financial services from the

group with which they bank, for the simple reason that these various services are not brought together in a way which makes life simpler and more convenient for their customers; why buy unit trusts from your bank's group if you do not make it easier for you to buy and hold their unit trusts than someone else's?

The challenge for the banks is to make their customers feel that the whole range of services in the group is conveniently available to them, preferably through people who understand their particular problems and needs.

The third layer (to whom the Hambro Life Group is directing its main attention in seeking to develop an integrated financial service) is known in the trade as the gold card market, in recognition of American Express's success in this field.

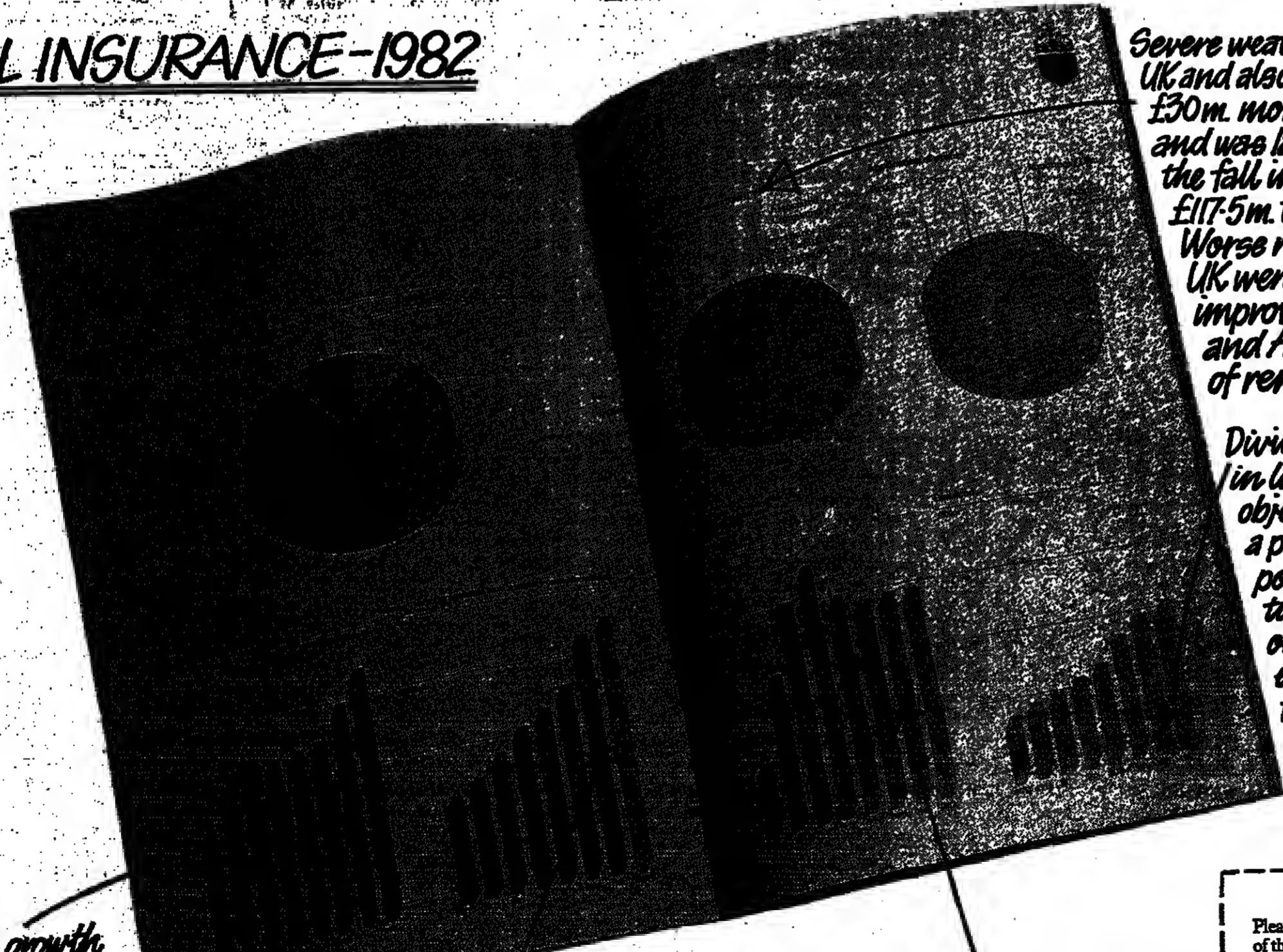
These people are interested in a particularly wide range of services, often including a share portfolio, but tend to be no better at organizing their financial affairs - indeed, the complexity of their finances often leads to paralysis in decision making and relative chaos in record-keeping. Once again the key to building up customer loyalty lies in making life simpler for them.

In my view, there are two elements in the solution. The first is the existence of a single person who can either offer advice to the customer on any of his needs or shepherd him to someone else in the group who has the expertise relating to the particular need. The second is an integrated computer system that will pull together the various threads of the customer's financial life, organizing his cash resources in the most efficient way and preparing a regular summary which gives him a clear picture of his affairs.

Providing this service will call for considerable resources of training, management and administration, but the benefit to the "gold card" customer and the group that provides the services should be substantial.

Mark Weinberg
The author is deputy chairman of Hambro Life Assurance.

ROYAL INSURANCE-1982



Severe weather, particularly in the UK and also in the US, cost some £30m. more overall than in 1981 and was largely responsible for the fall in pre-tax profit from £117.5m. to £96.5m. Worse results in the US and UK were partially offset by improvements in Canada and Australia as a result of remedial action.

Dividend increase of 5% is in line with our declared objective of maintaining a progressive dividend policy whilst at the same time ensuring that over a period sufficient earnings are retained to support the growth of business.

US premium growth of 12% improved our market share for the second successive year. In the UK, growth of 9% was satisfactory against the background of current economic conditions.

Important developments for Royal Life in the UK in 1982 - our entry into unit linked business and the establishment of a direct sales force - will serve us well in the years to come.

Profit after tax was slightly higher at £72.9m.



Please send me a copy of the Report & Accounts for the year ending December 31st, 1982.

Name _____
Address _____

To: The Secretary, Royal Insurance plc, Group Head Office, 1 Cornhill, London EC3V 3QR.

Banks in quandary over Saudi deficit

By Michael Prest

An admission by Mr Mohamed Abal-Khail, the Saudi Arabian finance minister, that the kingdom is likely to run a current account deficit this financial year as well as the announced budget deficit has prompted speculation about how the shortfalls will be funded.

Banks throughout the world are wondering whether they will compete for the mandate to raise a loan for Saudi Arabia, while the Saudis are withdrawing deposits.

However, Mr Abal-Khail, said at the weekend that the kingdom did not intend to borrow.

The secretary of the apparently suggests that Saudi Arabia will have no choice but to seek external finance in the financial year which started last Thursday. Total revenue is projected to be Saudi Riyals 260,000m (£49,600m) whereas spending is put at SR295,000m.

Appearances, however, can be deceptive. It is true that Mr Abal-Khail has reiterated the commitment made by King Fahd to push ahead with the 1980-85 development plan. But it does not follow that all parts of the plan will be completed according to the original schedule or that payment will be made as previously envisaged.

The finance minister made the point himself. He was quoted by Reuters as saying: "All the projects committed by the government agencies are going on. With the huge sums we are dealing with you have a lot of flexibility."

The second doubt about the final size of the budget and current account deficits stems from the behaviour of the oil market. As orders of magnitude,

the kingdom needs to export about 6 million barrels of oil a day at the present price of \$29 a barrel to cover development and other costs.

Last year's average was 5.6m barrels a day and the March figure was a mere 3.5 million barrels a day.

But there is a reasonable chance that output and exports will rise later in the year. The Saudi Government hopes that a combination of world economic recovery, rebounding of stocks, and seasonal fluctuations will raise demand.

Mr Abal-Khail said that total Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries production could go up from about 16 million barrels a day now to 19 million barrels a day towards the end of the calendar year.

One factor clearly working in Saudi Arabia's favour is the lower rate of import price inflation. The success of most of the kingdom's main industrial suppliers in reducing their domestic rate of prices increases, allied with cut-throat competition for Saudi contracts, could lead to import bills lower than expected.

But whatever the eventual combination of events bankers are sure that Saudi Arabia will not start withdrawing deposits until late in its financial year.

It makes sense to delay payments while earning interest and capital appreciation on the kingdom's external assets of \$160,000m for as long as possible.

Currys' earnings up with easier credit

Currys Year to 31.12.82 Pretax profit £15.06m (£11.27m) Stated earnings 20.5p (16.8p) Turnover £238m (£228m) Net final dividend 5.75p mkg 6.75p (4.95p) Share price 334p up 34p. Yield 2.9% Dividend payable 6.68p

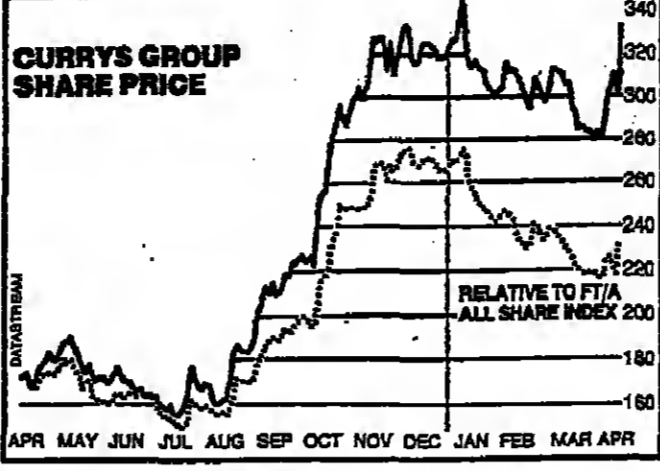
Currys' figures for 1982 show how much of a boost was given to the credit business by easier hire purchase terms and lower interest rates. Pretax profits were well above market forecasts at £15m against £11.2m last year. Credit business was 33 per cent of Currys sales in 1982, last year it jumped to 40 per cent, and the profits have not been dented by increases in bad debts.

At the same time the expansion in rentals, particularly of colour television and video recorders, also began to show through. The jump in assets in this division, from £17m to £29m, is a reflection of its growth.

Currys has been increasing its square footage, both through store openings - there were 20 new trading outlets last year - and re-locations into larger premises, of which there were 18.

These new developments in the rental and hire purchase sectors with investment in larger selling areas pushed up net borrowing to £9m.

The company says that margins were tight during the year, although the volume



Currys Group Share Price

increase was high, because of expansions of market shares. Currys is not certain of the level of margins this year, although the company says that sales are usefully higher. Japanese imports, at least, will be coming in at higher prices as a result of the accord between the EEC and the Japanese Ministry of International Trade, and the numbers will be down.

Profit forecasts for this year have been raised substantially now that there is a clearer picture of the impact of cheaper credit. There are hopes of £22m pretax, giving a price earnings ratio of only 14.5 times.

The dividend is likely to rise again, but perhaps by only 2p at the most because of the company's continued heavy expenditure on expansion.

With motor registrations moving from bad times to new peaks this year, shares in motor dealers could prove more interesting.

C D Bramall has a sound record compared with some, with profits rising without interruption from less than £1m in 1977 to more than £2m in the company's basis in 1981. That record was dented last year by an eight per cent fall

year fall, after profits had been marginally higher at the halfway stage. Mr D C A Bramall, the chairman, whose family interests own more than a quarter of the company, blames lower margins on new and used vehicle sales and the start-up costs of opening a Vauxhall/Bedford dealership in Sheffield in the middle of the year.

Since the relaxation of hire purchase controls last autumn, the market has generally grown more buoyant and Bramall says this has improved profits on used vehicles in particular.

The mainstay of Bramall's business is its Ford dealerships which, Sierra permitting, should keep it well in the hunt as the vehicle trade moves ahead. Its main problem is being centred in the harder-hit North of England.

Profits should certainly rise again this year. The company has balance sheet assets worth as much as the share price and reports a £180,000 revaluation, surplus which will not be incorporated. The high dividend cover does not help the shares in a sector where yield counts, but they look good value at less than eight times earnings.

Rowntree Mackintosh has embarked on an acquisition in the US, a move its shareholders have been awaiting since the 1981 rights issue. It is proposing

to buy Tom's Foods, a snack foods business, from General Mills for £140m. This, it says, fulfils two objectives - a product and geographical expansion.

The deal will initially be financed through a seven-year loan which will be rolled over into longer term money if interest rates fall. Thus the gearing rises to about 50 per cent of equity, while last year Rowntree was generating cash.

There will be no dilution of earnings, and indeed, the view is that this will add about 1/2p to earnings per share this year.

The snack and confectionery market in the US is highly competitive and Rowntree believes that by buying a company that serves the independents and vending groups it will continue to be in a relatively high margin backwater.

To critics who query the company's ability to take on a subsidiary in the United States, where it has no management experience, Rowntree says that Tom's has had a lot of autonomy, even though it has been a subsidiary.

Rowntree maintains it is paying about 16 times earnings, which is par for the course for US acquisitions in its sector, and that a Tom's will cover interest costs this year.

United States acquisitions are fashionable in the City, and the Rowntree share price, up 4p at 250p, is already benefiting.

Japanese put the accent on learning

Japanese businessmen living in Wales have been surprised to find their children are speaking with Welsh accents.

Others are even more alarmed that their youngsters are starting to speak Welsh, and now company executives are appealing for Japanese teachers for their children.

The problem is highlighted by the first survey of Japanese companies in Britain.

Another part-off for Japanese investment is the lack of Japanese food in Scotland, Wales and other development areas.

One Japanese restaurant outside London in Milton Keynes, was set up after the new town's development corporation appealed for help. But on the whole, says the survey by European Company Services, the Japanese are happy in Britain and with the British.

Production is higher than expected and labour relations are still going through a "honeymoon atmosphere".

The survey was sponsored by the Department of Industry and the Japan External Trade Organisation.

Mr George Murray, ECS director, said yesterday: "The biggest concentration of Japanese companies is in the Cardiff area."

A Community atmosphere is beginning to form there and the Japanese seem to have an affinity with the Welsh.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Table of company news including International, Twinkl, British Empire Securities, and others with financial details.

Table of Commodities prices including LONDON METAL EXCHANGE, COFFEE, SUGAR, and various metals.

Large table of Authorized Units & Insurance Funds listing various investment funds and their performance metrics.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: "مركزاً من لاصه"



Standard Chartered



BANK PLC

Comments by the Chairman, The Rt. Hon. Lord Barber

Profits before taxation for the year ended 31st December, 1982, amounted to £242 million, compared with £260 million the year before. The net profit attributable to shareholders, after deducting taxation and minority interests, was £114 million or 88 pence per share. The total dividend proposed for the year is 27 pence per share.

A modest improvement was achieved in our operating performance around the world in spite of the recession but this was more than offset by the large increase in provisions against doubtful loans.

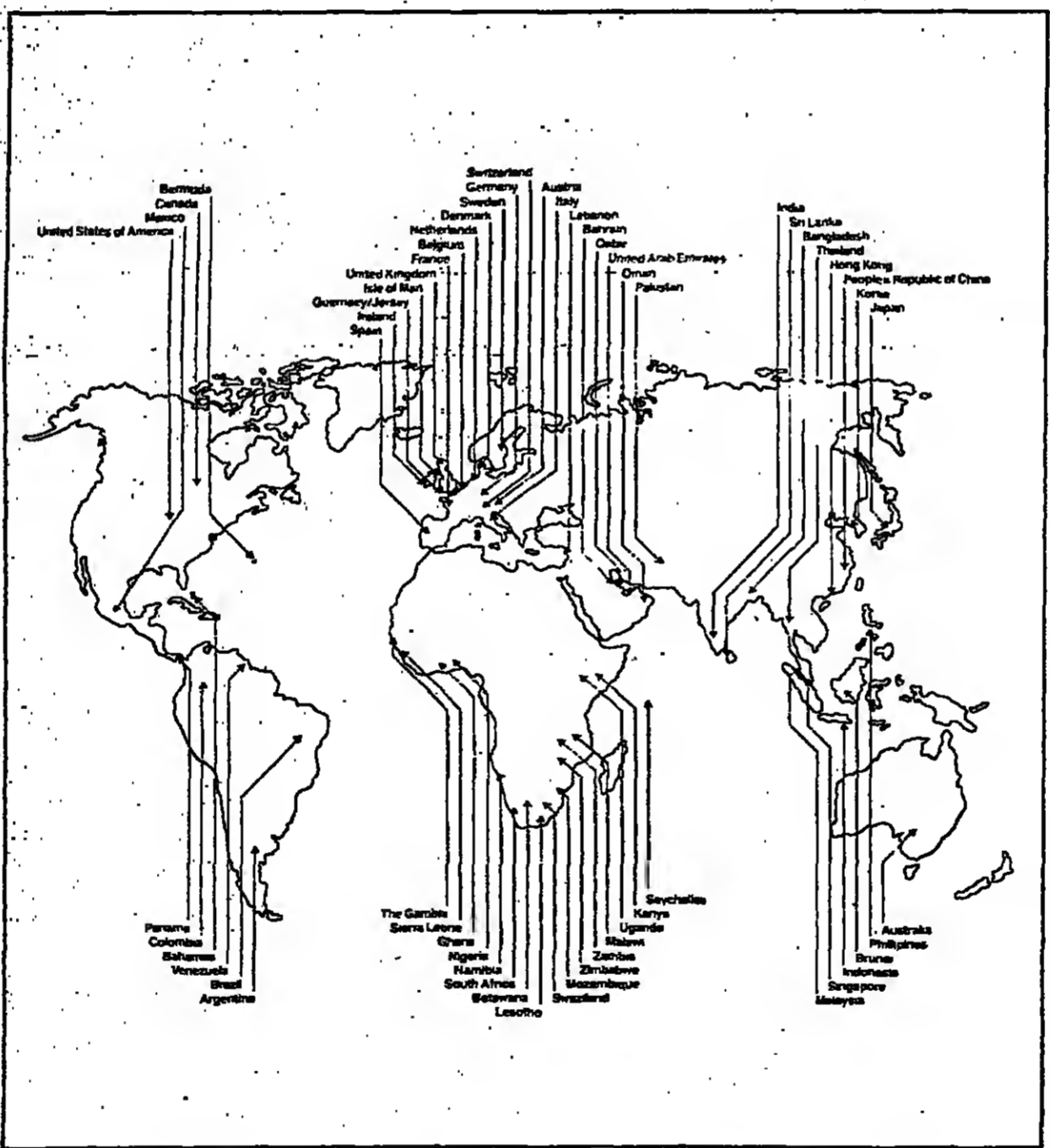
1982 was a year of difficult trading conditions for commercial banking and consumer finance in most of our principal markets. The worldwide network of foreign exchange and treasury centres achieved very satisfactory results. The slowdown in the South African economy affected our subsidiary there, but the improved prospects in the closing months led to a better outcome than had earlier been anticipated. Union Bank produced creditable results in the difficult Californian market. In the Far East, the tougher trading climate in Hong Kong was exacerbated by some concern about the future of the territory.

In the early part of the year a worldwide cost reduction programme was instituted, the benefits from which will be realised in the current year, as well as instilling a generally more alert attitude to cost factors. For a bank such as ours the importance of keeping

**Shareholders' Funds now
£1,141 million**

**Capital Resources now
£1,632 million**

**Total Assets now
£24,307 million**



**1,900 offices in over 60 countries
around the world.**

abreast of the latest developments in information technology is obvious, and we are engaged in a major exercise to improve the Bank's systems.

With such wide geographical coverage there are inevitably

changes from year to year in our representational structure. In addition to an increased presence in China, there were other significant changes referred to in my fuller Statement with the Report and Accounts.

In particular, in the United States we have formed an integrated management group to make the most effective use of the presence which the Group already has in seven major States.

Our merchant banking interests now cover ten countries. Last year we took a significant further step by agreeing to acquire MAIBL, the first of the London consortium banks, which will merge with Standard Chartered Merchant Bank.

The problems of international debt servicing for the banking system have seldom been out of the headlines during the past year. It can readily be seen now that several countries had allowed too high a proportion of their public debt to be borrowed abroad and that the prolonged recession and continued high interest rates have created a difficult situation. It will take time for a better balance to evolve, and banks with a continuing interest in the long-term health of the countries experiencing difficulties must play a responsible and co-operating role in easing the adjustment.

For Standard Chartered our concern is both with the internal health of the countries in which we operate commercial banking businesses, and with the safety of our international lending. Other than trade finance, international lending has never been a dominant feature of our operations. We have, however, a well spread portfolio of sovereign type lending, the major part of which is to countries where we have an established banking presence.

Copies of the Report and Accounts and of the Chairman's Statement may be obtained from The Secretary 10 Clements Lane, London EC4N 7AB

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MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

THE TIMES 1000

The World's Top Companies... The 1000 UK companies with the highest sales...

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chg, % P/E

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Just like the weather, the stock market was in a contrary mood yesterday and after coming within a whisker of 700, faded to end lower on the day.

The FT index, which has jumped more than 40 points since Easter, closed 0.5 down at 695.0, having been 2.9 up at 10 am.

However, the undertone remained strong supported by a late burst of buying support from New York where the Dow Jones Industrial average resumed its record run after the weekend break.

Blue chips were again in demand with BOC Group 2p up on the day at 216p along with Fisons 5p to 610p. ICI reduced an earlier fall to end only 2p down at 434p. Glaxo also retained a strong following ending 1/2p up at 517 1/2p.

The strength of the market was reflected by brokers Rowe & Pitman's ability to place 9.1 million shares in Rio Tinto Zinc, the mining finance group, without too much trouble.

The seller was Mr Harry Oppenheimer's Charter Consolidated, which sold more than 1 million shares this year for about 66m.

Yesterday's placing was executed at about 562p, valuing the company at 1.1 billion.

Dealers are pinning their hopes on a late run - possibly to 90p - for shares of ICL, Britain's biggest manufacturer of computers, ahead of the figures. The market is looking for profits of 220m against a loss of 131m. The shares were 1p lighter at 750p yesterday, after 8 1/2p.

Gilts recovered from a nervous start to produce gains of up to 1/2p, partly reflecting the pound's latest surge on the foreign exchange markets, where it ended 1.2 cents higher at \$1.5615. Dealers appear to have discounted the latest half-point cut in interest charges and feel that the next one may still be executed at about 562p, valuing the company at 1.1 billion.

Index fails to pass 700

Oil shares enjoyed another firm performance helped by Sheikh Yamani's latest optimistic comments on oil prices and consumption. The move certainly caught out the jobbers, who were already suffering from stock shortages. US support was noted in BP 16p higher at 388p while improvements were also seen in Shell, 4p up at 510p.

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One of the biggest movers on the day was Security Centres, which returned from a brief suspension 18p higher at 550p. The suspension came after US details of the group's latest security acquisition, Jewellers Protection, in January, the shares stood at 280p after news of an 8m rights issue and acquisition of National Guardsman security in New York.

The possibility of burnt fingers failed to deter investors in Bellair Cosmetics, which ended the day 9p higher at 65p, despite a circular from the company giving a warning that talks on a bid for the company were well below the current share price. The group's biggest shareholder, Fenton Hill, is trying to sell its stake. Market followers believe that a reverse takeover is being planned.

After the recent rights issue at Gansers Peat the French group Compagnie de l'Industrie pour la France et l'Occident has taken a stake of 10.5 million shares, or 7.85 per cent of the equity. Lord Kissin's stake accounts for 13.46 per cent of the shares.

Mr Michael Ashcroft's Electro-Precasters lost 1p to 246p after disappointing figures and reorganization news. Profits last year rose from \$3.4m to \$5.8m (£3.7m), but were below market expectations after exceptional items of \$1.2m.

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Table with columns: Market rates, Sterling Spot and Forward

Table with columns: Money Market Rates, Clearing Bank Rate 10%

Table with columns: Other Markets, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, UK, USA

Table with columns: Dollar Spot Rates, Ireland, Canada, Netherlands, Denmark, Spain, Portugal, Norway, France, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, UK, USA

Table with columns: Euro-Deposits, 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months

Table with columns: Gold, Gold (spot), Gold (1000 oz)

Table with columns: Property, Allent Ltd, Allent Ltd, Allent Ltd

Table with columns: Rubber, Birlor Hedges, Birlor Hedges, Birlor Hedges

Table with columns: Tea, Camille Inc, Camille Inc, Camille Inc

Table with columns: Miscellaneous, Essex Wre, Essex Wre, Essex Wre

The threat to British equestrianism

Non-stop rumours leave Guineas market in chaos

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

The 2,000 Guineas market was in turmoil yesterday after some of the leading bookmakers, notably Hills, Combs and Dewhurst, decided to suspend operations for the time being...

A day that Piggott will want to forget

Lester Piggott, paying one of his rare visits to Wolverhampton yesterday, twice ended up before the stewards...

After his narrow defeat on the 5-4 favourite, Monarch Trophy, at the hands of Mizze Love, the jockey Wallflower Selling Handicap, Piggott and the trainer Arthur Pitt's representative were interviewed by the stewards over the running and riding of the race...



DAVID MILLER

When I drive through the Borough of Islington these days - less frequently for the purpose of visiting our smart famous restaurants than on my night walk - I keep a sharp eye open for conger eels...

The hunt: Breeding ground for top sportsmen. Back over 200 years, of British equestrianism. The beauty that was Badminton last Saturday, a near 200,000 crowd making it substantially the biggest occasion in British sport...

Making the fox a political animal

The fox-hunting lobby is a powerful one in the United Kingdom. It is not always easy for local stewards to decide on the severity of a jockey's offence...



The hunt: Breeding ground for top sportsmen

Epsom

Draw advantages: Low numbers best. Total: Double 3.10, 4.10, Treble 2.85, 3.40, 4.45. 2.0 CUDDINGTON AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O maidens: £1,646: 5f) (8 runners) 1.01 1.01 NUTSHELL (M Doughty) 2 Thos 8-7 ... P Robinson 7

Wolverhampton

Draw: No advantage. 2.0 CYCLAMEN STAKES (3-Y-O maidens: £826: 5f) (10 runners) 1.03 2.01 ARITHMETIC (M Doughty) 2 Thos 8-7 ... P Robinson 7

Sedgefield

2.15 MONKEY PUZZLE HURDLE (Selling handicap: £550: 3m 600yds) (21 runners) 2.00 1.01 ARITHMETIC (M Doughty) 2 Thos 8-7 ... P Robinson 7

Squash Rackets

4.15 REG LAMB CHASE (handicap: £1,554: 3m 600yds) (12) 2.11 1.01 BLACKHAWK STAR (C) K Oliver 0-11-3 ... P Tucker 1

Ice Hockey

Start of a white, green and blue revolution. World Championship Squash (WCS), a new organization directed by four experienced and successful entrepreneurs...

Epsom selections

- 2.0 Astral Dancer. 2.35 Ridgefield. 3.10 Teodoro. 3.40 Merely A Secret. 4.10 Artiste. 4.45 The Minister.

Wolverhampton selections

- 2.0 Luck Penny. 2.30 Blackpool Belle. 3.0 Son Of A Gunner. 3.30 Mailman. 4.0 Little Poney. 4.30 Tippie le Jump. 5.0 Onwardales.

Sedgefield selections

- 2.15 Rose's Pal. 2.45 Gale Land. 3.15 Honourable Man. 3.45 Prince Rowan. 4.15 Good Crack. 4.45 Jamestino. 5.15 Mick's Ritual.

Squash Rackets

World Championship Squash (WCS), a new organization directed by four experienced and successful entrepreneurs...

Ice Hockey

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Epsom results

4.10 APRIL HANDICAP (3-Y-O fillies: £3,106: 1m 110yds) (11) 5.02 2.11 1.01 BLACKHAWK STAR (C) K Oliver 0-11-3 ... P Tucker 1

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TENNIS: MUDDLED THINKING BY ATP

Two iniquitous payments that must not be mistaken for prize money

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Remember the old British Hard Court Championships? Bournemouth is not like that any more. The State Express Classic which begins today is for men only. The women, 64 of them, are competing for less than £1,700 in a separate tournament at West Worthing. By contrast, 16 men are competing for over £48,000 in a side-show at Bournemouth.

Well, perhaps more than a side-show. What a joy it should be to see a little sadness at the toll the years have taken to have another look at players who have given us so much pleasure. Among them, will be six men who won Wimbledon championships in singles or doubles or both: Roy Emerson, Manuel Santana, Rod Laver, Fred Stolle, Bob Hewitt, and Owen Davidson. For some reason, they forgot to invite Frew McMillan.

The seedings say that in the main event, the grand prix tournament, the last eight will be: Jose Higueras v Jaime Filio, Manuel Orantes v Balazs Taroczy, Victor Pecci v Shlomo Glickstein and Christopher Mottram v Tomas Smid. Interesting first round matches include Glickstein v Claudio Panatta, Mottram v Angel Gimenez (runner-up last year), Pat Cash v Thierry Tulasne (both teenagers) and Jim Brown, aged 17 v Filio, aged 36.

The prize money is £73,964. In addition the tournament must pay £10,417 into the grand prix bonus pool and £4,734 to the Association of Tennis Professionals. It has become the practice to use official but misleading grand prize language in lumping the three sums together and calling the total "prize money". The ATP, in their usually accurate paper, went so far as to state that "men and women competing at Wimbledon will receive £978,211". That is not true. The only defence for such muddled thinking, is that it represents grand prize policy. The prize money at Wimbledon will be £904,246. The figure of £978,211 is made up by the addition of £59,172 paid to the bonus pool and £14,773 paid to the ATP.

All grand prize tournaments contribute to the bonus pool and also, this year, to the ATP. It is difficult to justify either payment and inaccurate to claim that they form part of a particular tournament's prize money. They would do so only if both sums were added to the money which tournaments pay directly to the players.

The year-end bonuses reward the more successful players for their commitment to the grand prize circuit. Thus are the leading men paid twice for their successes. Moreover, it is reasonable that, by contributing to the bonus pool, tournaments increase the earnings of players who may seldom, if ever, support their events. There are court specialists, for example, who do not compete in the French Championships, and clay-court specialists who do not compete at Wimbledon. Why should France and Wimbledon, to take only two examples, pay players who do not support their championships?

The payment to the ATP is new

and has unpleasant implications. Its purpose, similar to the bonus system, is to harness the players' union in to help with the grand prize. In January of last year the ATP announced that they were withdrawing their representatives from the governing council of the grand prize. In order to assume an independent neutral role between the grand prize circuit, the World Championship Tennis circuit, and a variety of one-off promotions. That decision made sense and it was what most ATP members wanted — and still do — announcing the ATP's advance to a brave new world of impartial integrity was still hanging in the

air, the ATP fee cannot be justified on any count. If I may stress the point, neither payment should be confused with the prize money paid to players for their performances in particular tournaments.

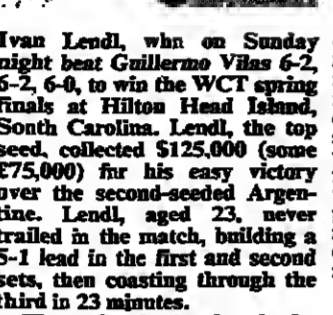
There is so much fallacious reasoning in men's tennis that nonsense and injustice become familiar and almost tolerable. A prime example is the confusion caused by the fact that the men running the grand prize gave themselves a pretentious and tendentious title: the Men's International Professional Tennis Council. This implies that they are the governing body of men's professional tennis. That is not and never has been their function. They merely run one of the two men's circuits.

The other is run by WCT, who are currently using the MIPTC, the ATP, and the ITF. Briefly, the complaint alleges that the defendants are conspiring to monopolise men's professional tennis and in doing so have violated United States anti-trust laws. Without going into the charges or the respective merits of the two circuits and their organisations, it is possible to sympathise with WCT in their frustration. They put men's professional tennis on its feet, made a tactical error by joining the grand prize, and on re-assessing their independence discovered that the entrances to a supposedly free market were obstructed.

The acrimony between WCT and the Establishment has been going on for 15 years and there will be no end to it until the game has an independent governing body. Conceivably, this could consist of the ATP, representing the players, and the ITF (the national associations). But they would first have to decide that they want to govern men's professional tennis — rather than a single circuit of tournaments, which is what they do now.

The withdrawal from direct involvement in tournament promotion would present short-term problems but long-term benefits. A governing body running its own circuit could be neither trusted nor tolerated, its neutrality would always be suspect. If independent, on the other hand, it could be universally respected and lay down basic rules and standards — much like those of the grand prize and WCT circuits, but more flexible than either — to be honoured by organisers and competitors at all events (including one-off promotions) seeking official status. Meantime, let us have a little more commonsense in discussing what is prize money and what is not.

Bournemouth qualifying, page 23



Ivan Lendl, who on Sunday night beat Guillermo Vilas 6-2, 6-2, 6-0, to win the WCT spring finals at Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. Lendl, the top seed, collected \$125,000 (some \$75,000) for his easy victory over the second-seeded Argentine. Lendl, aged 23, never trailed in the match, building a 5-1 lead in the first and second sets, then coasting through the third in 23 minutes.

The Czechoslovak broke Vilas service nine times out of 11 and was forced to deuce only once during his own service in a game which Vilas, aged 30, eventually won.

Lendl said his win could give him a psychological advantage. "It means if we meet again in the French Open, I'll know what to expect and what to do," he said. "It's always nice to go into a match knowing you won the last one."

breze when they changed their minds. The rapidity with which they did so suggested that they were flexible or, to be less charitable, had merely been taking up a dispensable bargaining position.

It was no secret that the ATP could not afford to be independent unless they trimmed their staff, their payments to members, and their ambitions. They needed a secure income. The rest of the grand prize council — representatives of the International Tennis Federation and tournament directors — were prepared to do a deal with them. WCT were not. So the ATP sold

Legal Appointments

also on page 26



BUSINESS MANAGER

BBC Enterprises Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the British Broadcasting Corporation, responsible for the worldwide commercial exploitation of BBC Television programmes in all market outlets. We seek a Business Manager with an appropriate professional legal qualification. Reporting to the Company Secretary and Director, the Business Manager will be expected to participate in negotiations with rights holders and talent unions, and to prepare distribution and other contractual agreements. Duties will also entail line management responsibilities for departments concerned with associated business and contractual procedures, including computerised sales records systems, which requires working in close collaboration with the Computer Projects Manager in further developing and co-ordinating the systems and related activities.

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There is a vacancy for a litigation solicitor in the legal department of the National House Building Council, located at Amersham, Buckinghamshire.

The N.H.B.C. is a standards body and an insurance company covering over 99% of private housing in the U.K. The legal department is a small busy department of three lawyers and administration staff. The vacancy is for a solicitor admitted at least three years ago, who has specialised in Litigation; Conveyancing experience would be useful but is not crucial. The successful applicant will also carry out general advisory work on the scheme operated by the N.H.B.C. The post should be attractive for a solicitor in his/her late twenties or early thirties who is intelligent, hardworking, has an ability to write good clear English and who can work without supervision.

The salary will be approximately £10,000 p.a. depending on age and experience and there are additional fringe benefits including a pension scheme.

Please write or phone for an application form (to be returned by 30th April) to Mrs D. FANTHOME, PERSONNEL OFFICE, N.H.B.C., CHILTERN AVENUE, AMERSHAM, BUCKS HP6 5AP. Tel. Amersham 4477 ext 279.

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CONVEYANCING

Reynolds Porter Chamberlain also seek a Solicitor with about 2 years post admission experience, proven ability and interest in this field of the law. A positive approach allied to the desire and ability to provide a first class service to our clients is essential. The successful applicant will deal with domestic conveyancing and office lettings with minimum supervision. Starting salary will be at market rates according to age, ability and experience. Interviews will be held in 2/3 weeks' time.

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Colin P. Ellis, Esq.,
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Chichester House,
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London WC1V 7HA

Teenager gives Mrs Lloyd a scare

Amelia Island, Florida (Reuter) — world No 2 appeared to have the match wrapped up when she won the opening set and jumped in to a 2-0 lead in the second. Then Miss Bassett, the youngest player on the women's tennis tour, stunned Mrs Lloyd by winning the next eight games.

Mrs Lloyd's perfect record on Florida clay was clearly in danger as Miss Bassett led 4-3 in the decisive set and was serving with a 30-0 lead, but the Canadian committed three unforced errors over the next four points to yield a critical service break.

Bournemouth qualifying, page 23

GOLF: TWO BRANDS WITH AN EQUAL SHARE OF THE MARKET

X plus Y equals confusion

From John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent Port of Kaitaouhi

The battle of the Brands, which promised to be something of a sideshow during the Tunisian Open championship, the first event of the European professional season, developed into something significantly more important. Both Gordon Brands shared the second place prize with Tom Sieckmann, of the United States.

If in cold, morning-after analysis, the elder Brand, the one from Yorkshire (and Brand X for brevity here), did more than enough to banish the nightmare of 1982. He came again on Sunday with two telling birdies to claim a generous share of the booty, £4,473, when he seemed to have faded into the pack.

The confusion caused by two players having the same name has already led to the publication of the wrong man's photograph, in *The Times* as elsewhere. Funnily when the demented seemed in when the younger Brand, a Scot living in the West Country (Brand Y) removed his distinguishing moustache. But Brand X, mercifully, has taken to wearing spectacles.

The fascinating aspect of this comparison is that when Brand Y burst spectacularly on the scene last year with two tournament victories in his first season, Brand X suffered a catastrophic decline. He dropped to 61st position in the order of merit



The game of the name: old-style Brand Y (left) and new-look Brand X

and thus lost his automatic exemption in this year's event by one place (and £5,60).

The success of the younger man was widely believed to have had a psychological effect on his senior. Brand X took himself off to Africa for rehabilitation and succeeded to win a newly-born baby with £22,000 prize money and his exempt status restored.

How, now, would he stand up to the presence of Brand Y on the first occasion of their meeting? By a quirk of fate, helped along by Brand X's restorative 69 in the third round, the two played together on the last day. Honour was served by two rounds of 71. In one tournament Brand X has earned more than half the money he had acquired in 24 last year. The baby seems well provided for.

The tournament was otherwise notable for the recovery of Bernhard Langer, sixth in Europe last year and first in 1981. After a first round of 77, five-over par, he just survived the humiliation (for him) of the 36-hole cut with a second round of 73. A 69 on the third day pointed in a solution of his putting problems, but deceptively. He cannot expect to chip in three times, as he did on Saturday.

In his way, a steady 73 in difficult conditions of severe wind on Sunday was more of a pointer to the way ahead. By then he had discarded the several cut-down putters he had brought with him and reverted to one of conventional shaft. Neither he nor anyone is likely to have been impressed by the newest gimmick employed by Sieckmann, the reverse-sloped putter with the de Gaulle profile.

Zoeller makes most of shortcoming

From John Ballantine, Hilton Head Island, south Carolina

After winning his first title for two years, the Heritage Classic, Fuzzy Zoeller discussed the matter dearest to the heart of every golfer: how do you hit a longer ball from the tee?

"It's just a gift, I think," Zoeller replied. He is not quite so phenomenally long as he was when he won the Masters in 1979 but who is still able to "let it out long way", as Americans say, when he wants to.

"Sure, you can't just hit it," Zoeller added.

"My worsening back has taken 15 to 20 yards off my drive recently," he continued, "but perhaps you are unable to notice it. Ever since I bought a driver I have ever seen?"

Well I never saw legendary big hitters like George Bayer or Martin Rostick, but for my money Ed the Pohl is the longest today followed

by Fred Couples and John McComish." Pohl stands 5ft 11ins and weighs 124kg. Couples is 5ft 11ins and 132kg, and the giant McComish, of California, is 6ft 6in and 166kg.

"I believe that having to cut down distance because of my back eluded me here at Harbour Town where the emphasis has got to be on accuracy in the tight fairways and small greens," Zoeller went on. "I used a lot of two irons and three woods from the tee". The powerful 5ft 10in, 134lb professional led by one from Bob Eastwood and by two from Jim Neild, of Canada, and Mac O'Grady, the former European tour player, at the start of the final round.

The reasons for his win included the par four he made at the 332-yard ninth, followed by his birdie at the 10th. "At the ninth I took a two iron

but my drive hit a branch. I still had only 78 yards to the pin but I skinned the sand wedge into a bunker. I got a funny looking shot from the sand out to 10 feet and holed for par. At the 10th I hit an eight iron to 12 feet and holed. But the first time I really felt I had won was when I hit my short 170", he confessed.

Neild held on to second place while O'Grady, who tied with Eastwood for third, won by far his biggest prize to date, \$20,300 (£13,037). By general vote he was the "new star" of the week.

NEILD'S TOUR RECORDS (US unless stated):
272: Zoeller, 8/72,86,71; 277: J Neild (Canada), 68,69,70,71,278; M O'Grady, 68,69,70,71,278; B Eastwood, 69,70,71,72,277; J Neild (Australia), 70,69,69,72; K Kim, 73,68,67,70; C Pavesi, 72,68,70,72; M Ivan, 70,68,71,72; C Stander, 70,71,72; J Neild (New Zealand), 70,69,73,271; Trevino, 68,72,72,71; J Bean, 68,71,72,68; J Crawshaw, 73,68,68,74; 68,74,69,70; P Couples, 73,68,68,74.

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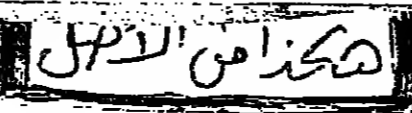
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Substantial commercially orientated firm of Solicitors in pleasant East Midlands City is seeking young Solicitors to join the firm's Commercial and Commercial Conveyancing Departments. The successful candidates will ideally act as personal assistants to Partners and as such will acquire a broadly based experience in the usual commercial fields. Apply in the first instance to:

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DEATHS

There said John... BIRTHS... APRIL - On April 16th, at St Teresa's Hospital, Winton, to Philip and Gordon a daughter.

MARRIAGES

MARRIAGES - On April 16, 1983, at St. Andrew's Church, London, the Rev. Canon J. H. ...

DEATHS

ANDERSON - On April 17th, 1983, at St. Andrew's Church, London, the Rev. Canon J. H. ...

DEATHS

TOFTS - On April 18th, 1983, at home, Vincent, ...

MARRIAGES

MARRIAGES - On April 16, 1983, at St. Andrew's Church, London, the Rev. Canon J. H. ...

DEATHS

ANDERSON - On April 17th, 1983, at St. Andrew's Church, London, the Rev. Canon J. H. ...

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Spink Buy War Medals... THE TIMES TUESDAY APRIL 19 1983

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

00 Centre AM. News headlines, weather, sport and traffic details.
30 Breakfast. Three presented by Frank Bough and Salina Costello.
6.00 Drybreak with Gavin Scott...

TV-am

6.00 Drybreak with Gavin Scott.
9.30 Sesame Street. Learning made fun with the Muppets.
12.00 Cuckoo! A repeat of the programme shown at noon...

TV/LONDON

9.30 Sesame Street. Learning made fun with the Muppets.
10.30 Science International. Michael Bentine with news of the latest scientific developments...

BBC 2

6.05 Open University: Modern Art.
11.00 Play School.
1.00 World Spooker. Coverage of the fourth day of the Embassy World Professional Championship...

CHANNEL 4

5.00 A Full Life. In the second of her interviews with people who are leading a long and fruitful life...
6.00 A Party Political Broadcast presented by Neil Berou for first time voters...

CHOICE

documentary illustrates an unacceptable facet of a noble profession.
Former Royal Navy helicopter pilot and interpreter, Grant Eustace uses his background to good effect in his play FAIR EXCHANGE...

Radio 3

7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert (1) Beethoven, Rameau, Kodaly, Hindy, records.
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Telerama, Britten, Purcell, Bach records.

Radio 1

6.00am Adrian John with The Early Show.
7.00 Steve Wright.
7.30 News.
7.55 Morning Concert (1) Beethoven, Rameau, Kodaly, Hindy, records.

World Service

6.00am Newsweek.
6.30 Jazz for the Aiding.
7.00 World News.
7.30 News.
7.55 Morning Concert (1) Beethoven, Rameau, Kodaly, Hindy, records.

BBC 2

6.05 Open University: Modern Art.
11.00 Play School.
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REGIONAL VARIATIONS

As London except: 10.30am Lorry the...
As London except: 10.30am Lorry the...
As London except: 10.30am Lorry the...

BBC 1

Wales 12.57-1.00 News of Wales.
Headlines, 1.00-1.30 News of Wales.
1.30-1.45 News of Wales.
1.45-2.00 News of Wales.

BORDER

As London except: 10.30am Lorry the...
As London except: 10.30am Lorry the...
As London except: 10.30am Lorry the...

CHANNEL

As London except: 10.30am Lorry the...
As London except: 10.30am Lorry the...
As London except: 10.30am Lorry the...

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ALICE...
ALICE...
ALICE...

OPERA & BALLET

COLLEGE...
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA...
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA...

CONCERTS

BASIC...
BASIC...
BASIC...
BASIC...

THEATRES

A CREDIT...
A CREDIT...
A CREDIT...
A CREDIT...

ART GALLERIES

AGNEW...
AGNEW...
AGNEW...
AGNEW...

Legal

Appointments
on pages 25 and 26

Refugee accused of seedy past

By George Clark

Prospects for Mr Stancu Papiou, the deported Romanian, ever being allowed back into Britain now seem slim...

Mr Waddington said that when he was deported back to Romania Mr Papiou had claimed that he had been tortured and beaten by prison officers in England...

Mr Papiou has been expelled from Romania and is now in Austrian refugee camp...

Some MPs who criticized the Home Office decision last month say that the Romanian reports should be accepted without thorough checking.



Princess gets nose-rub welcome from Maoris

The Princess of Wales received a nose-rubbing from Sussan Piper, aged 16, at a walk about in an Auckland park yesterday...

The Duchess of Gloucester, as Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Army Educational Corps, visits units in Aldershot, Kent, 10.30.

The Duke of Kent, as Chairman of the National Electronics Society, visits the All-Electronics Show at the Barbican Centre, London, 11.30...

They are also unlikely to know that a former Minister of Maori Affairs boycotted the gala.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Army Educational Corps, visits units in Aldershot, Kent, 10.30.

Princess Charles, was also slightly apprehensive about the nose-rubbing ceremony.

Princess Margaret visits Gosport, 11.30.

Princess Anne, Patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, opens the Elizabeth Curtis Centre for Disabled Riders, Bromham Hospital, Bromham, Bedfordshire, 10.45...

Lead-free petrol by 1990

Continued from page 1. Lowled from food or even the glazing on plates. Professor Southwood said that necessary EEC action was necessary otherwise Continental lead pollution might 'wait across the channel'...

Channel 4 may face call for shutdown

Independent television companies may ask for Channel 4 to be shut down until the dispute over payments for actors' appearing in commercials on the network has been settled...

Frank Johnson in the Commons Acts of an apostle for Third World

Yesterday the House debated the plight of the Third World. As always when that subject is under discussion in the Chamber, the speech which aroused the most interest among members was that of Mr Edward Heath - or Major Reflation, to give him his military rank...

Manila fires

Manila (AFP) - About 1,500 people were left homeless after two separate fires in a Muslim neighbourhood in central Manila and a residential-commercial area in suburban Makati.

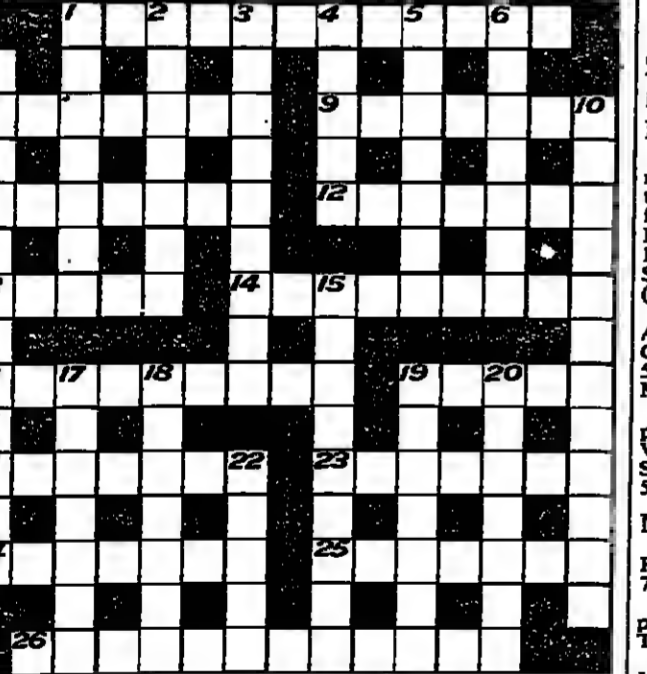
Today's events

Royal engagements: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh inspect the Queen's Company of the First Battalion Grenadier Guards, Windsor Castle, 12.

Princess Margaret visits Gosport, 11.30.

Princess Anne, Patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, opens the Elizabeth Curtis Centre for Disabled Riders, Bromham Hospital, Bromham, Bedfordshire, 10.45...

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,107



ACROSS: 1 Jack's obstacle race? (12). 2 Bateman taking caps off? (7). 3 Noisy bunch end in quarrels? (7). 4 A target destroyed at Henley? (7). 5 He gave Tom his field of vision (3-4). 6 Corsets used to be put on in bed (5). 7 You may burn your fingers with this tricky business (3,6). 8 Unusually grim, a part of this rambling recital (9). 9 Middle American hasn't a cent to get in (5). 10 Marine-built sort of revolutionary conveyance for the well-born (7). 11 Remove corruption but make a bomb (5,2). 12 One who leaves a course unfinished (4-3). 13 Inquire into what used to be a pit (7). 14 Perhaps a privilege to support the standing order? (6,6).

TV top ten

- National top ten television programmes in the week ending April 10: 1 Coronation Street (Wed) Granada, 10.30pm

Music

Concert by Modern Jazz Quartet, Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham, 7.30.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debates on Opposition motions on East Anglia and on shipbuilding and ship repairing industries.

Anniversaries

Christian Ehrenberg, biologist, was born at Delitzsch, Germany, 1795. Death: Paolo Veronesi (Cagliari), Venice, 1888; Byron, Missolonghi, Greece, 1824; Benjamin Disraeli, First Earl of Beaconsfield, Prime Minister, 1868, 1874-80, London, 1881; Charles Darwin, Downe, Kent, 1882; Pierre Curie, Paris, 1906. The War of American Independence began with the Battle of Lexington, 1775.

Roads

London and South-east: Scrubs Lane, N Kensington; Roadworks. Kingston town centre: Width restriction at Wood Street, A501.

The papers

Commenting on Mrs Thatcher's Foreign Falklands policy, the Daily Mirror says: 'With the bloodshed fresh and with an election in mind, she won't look beyond the present...'

The pound

Table showing exchange rates for various countries: Australia \$ 1.85, Austria Sch 27.95, Canada \$ 1.95, Denmark Kr 13.98, Finland Mk 8.30, France Fr 11.73, Germany DM 3.53, Greece Dr 157.00, Hongkong \$ 10.97, Ireland Pt 1.24, Italy Lira 2205.00, Japan Yen 388.00, Netherlands Gld 4.41, Norway Kr 11.56, Portugal Esc 160.00, South Africa R 11.00, Spain Pta 121.00, Sweden Kr 11.48, Switzerland Fr 2.30, USA \$ 1.60, Yugoslavia Dnr 130.00.

National Day

The West African state of Sierra Leone celebrates its National Day today. The day marks the anniversary of the adoption of a republican constitution in 1971.

Weather

A depression in the North Sea will move slowly N, and a cold N airstream covers the British Isles. 6 am to midnight: London, SE, central S England, Midlands: Fog patches dispersing...

Lighting-up time

London 8.35 pm to 8.26 am. Belfast 8.03 pm to 8.26 am. Birmingham 8.56 pm to 8.27 am. Bristol 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Cardiff 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Exeter 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Glasgow 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Hull 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Liverpool 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Manchester 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Newcastle 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Nottingham 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Oxford 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Plymouth 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Reading 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Southampton 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Swansea 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Wakefield 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. Wolverhampton 8.52 pm to 8.27 am. York 8.52 pm to 8.27 am.

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: London 12.7°C, Manchester 11.7°C, Birmingham 11.7°C, Bristol 11.7°C, Cardiff 11.7°C, Exeter 11.7°C, Glasgow 11.7°C, Hull 11.7°C, Liverpool 11.7°C, Manchester 11.7°C, Newcastle 11.7°C, Nottingham 11.7°C, Oxford 11.7°C, Plymouth 11.7°C, Reading 11.7°C, Southampton 11.7°C, Swansea 11.7°C, Wakefield 11.7°C, Wolverhampton 11.7°C, York 11.7°C.

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Perth, 11C (52F); lowest day temp: Cardiff, 4C (39F); highest night temp: London, 6.5°C (43.7°F); lowest night temp: London, 11.7°C.

Table showing highest and lowest temperatures for various cities: London 12.7, Manchester 11.7, Birmingham 11.7, Bristol 11.7, Cardiff 11.7, Exeter 11.7, Glasgow 11.7, Hull 11.7, Liverpool 11.7, Manchester 11.7, Newcastle 11.7, Nottingham 11.7, Oxford 11.7, Plymouth 11.7, Reading 11.7, Southampton 11.7, Swansea 11.7, Wakefield 11.7, Wolverhampton 11.7, York 11.7.

Around Britain

Table showing weather conditions around Britain: St Andrews, 10.2, 6, 4; Scarborough, 10.2, 6, 4; Southport, 10.2, 6, 4; Swansea, 10.2, 6, 4; etc.

High tides

Table showing high tide times for various locations: London Bridge 6.20, 8.57, 11.1; Avonmouth 6.17, 8.57, 11.1; etc.

Abroad

Table showing weather conditions abroad: Alcala, 12.7, 6, 4; Alicante, 12.7, 6, 4; Alexandria, 12.7, 6, 4; Algiers, 12.7, 6, 4; Amsterdam, 12.7, 6, 4; Ankara, 12.7, 6, 4; Antalya, 12.7, 6, 4; Athens, 12.7, 6, 4; etc.